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read from right to left

MIRIAM 3

KYOKO HIKAWA

"Kouya no Tenshidomo"

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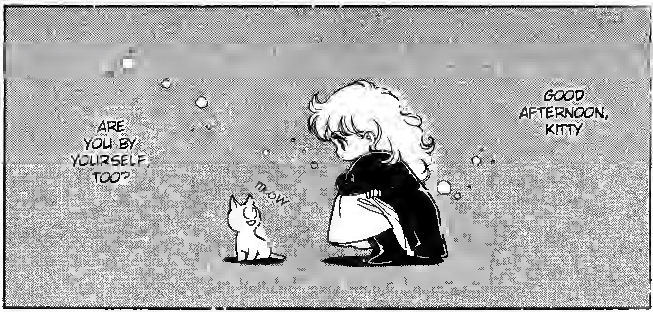
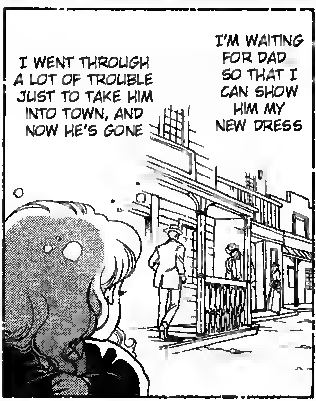
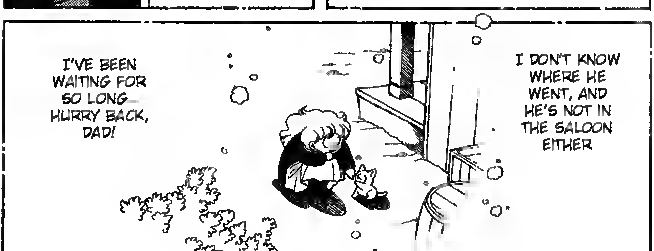
with a lil editing help from inochi

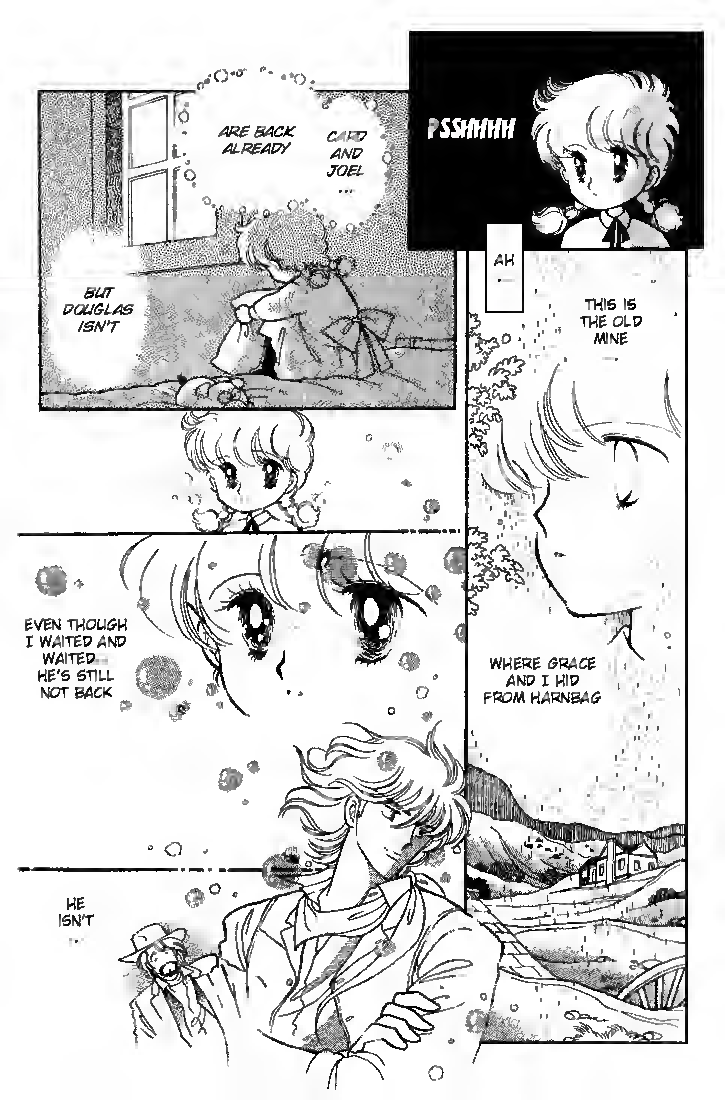

GOOD AFTERNOON, KITTY
MEOW
ARE YOU BY YOURSELF, TOO?

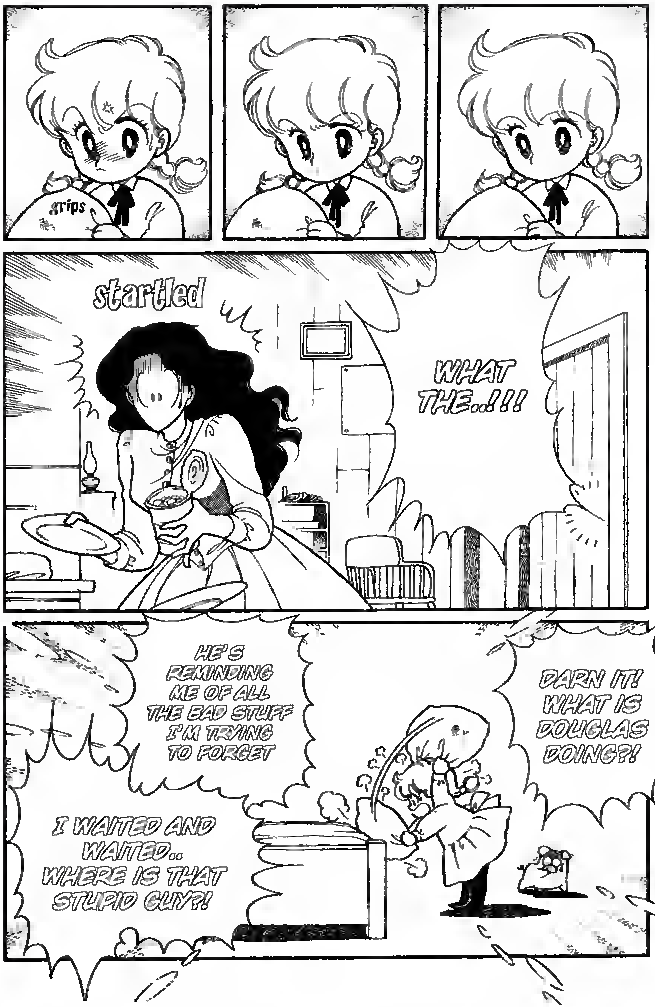

I'M WAITING FOR DAD SO THAT I CAN SHOW HIM MY NEW DRESS
I WENT THROUGH A LOT OF TROUBLE JUST TO TAKE HIM INTO TOWN, AND NOW HE'S GONE

HEHE— I'M WEARING A NICE DRESS, HUH?
IT'S A GIFT FROM GRACE

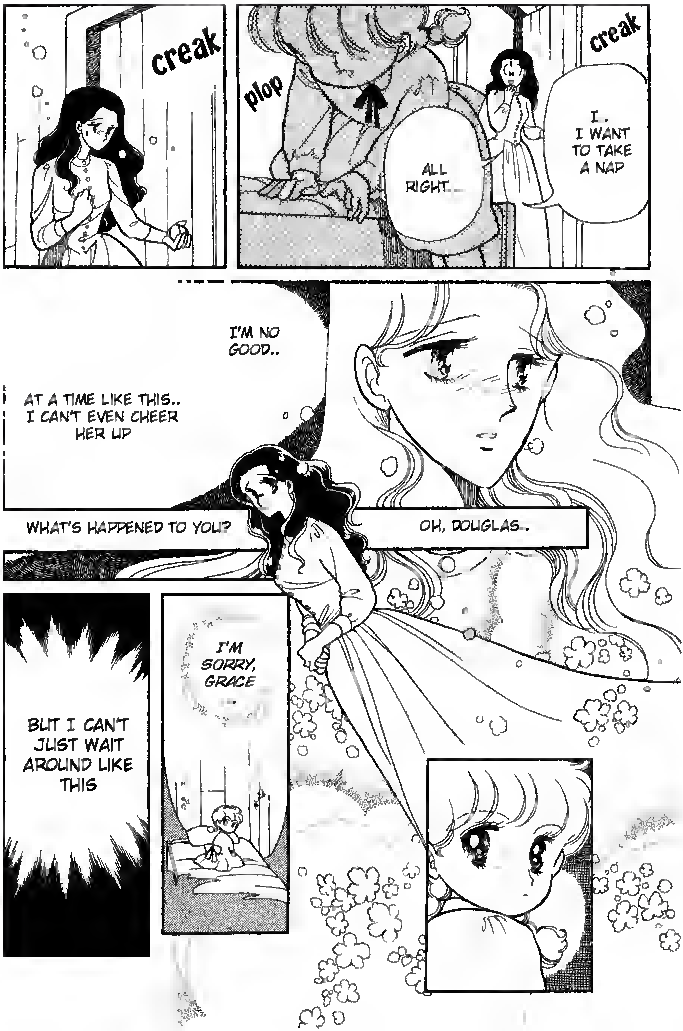

I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE WENT, AND HE'S NOT IN THE SALOON EITHER
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR SO LONG— HURRY BACK, DAD!

AND HE'LL SAY THAT I'M VERY PRETTY
HE'LL GIVE ME A COMPLIMENT WHEN HE SEES THIS DRESS
BUT...
HE WAS FOUND DEAD ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN
WHAT'S TAKING HIM SO LONG..?
I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING AT THE TIME... I JUST CONTINUED WAITING...
huh?!
PSSSSHHHH

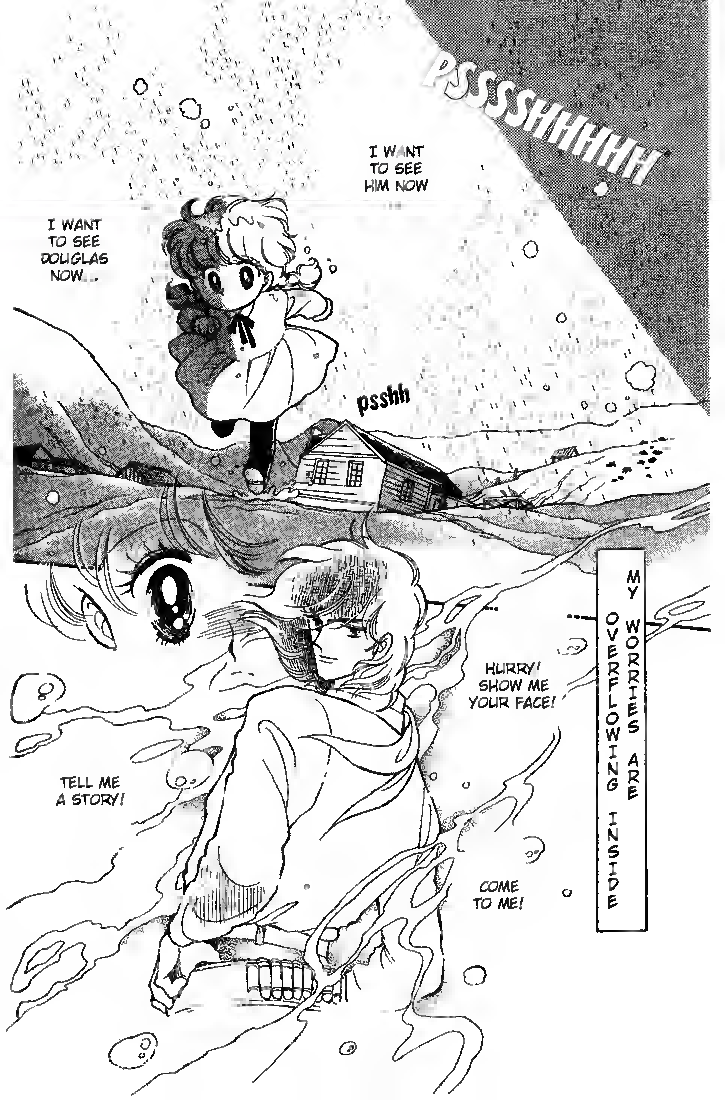

PSSHHHH
ARE BACK ALREADY
CARD AND JOEL ...
BUT DOUGLAS ISN'T
AH ...
THIS IS THE OLD MINE
WHERE GRACE AND I HID FROM HARNBAG
EVEN THOUGH I WAITED AND WAITED... HE'S STILL NOT BACK
HE ISN'T ..


trips
startled
WHAT THE..!!!
I WAITED AND WAITED.. WHERE IS THAT STUPID GUY?!
HE'S REMINDING ME OF ALL THE BAD STUFF I'M TRYING TO FORGET
DARN IT! WHAT IS DOUGLAS DOING?!

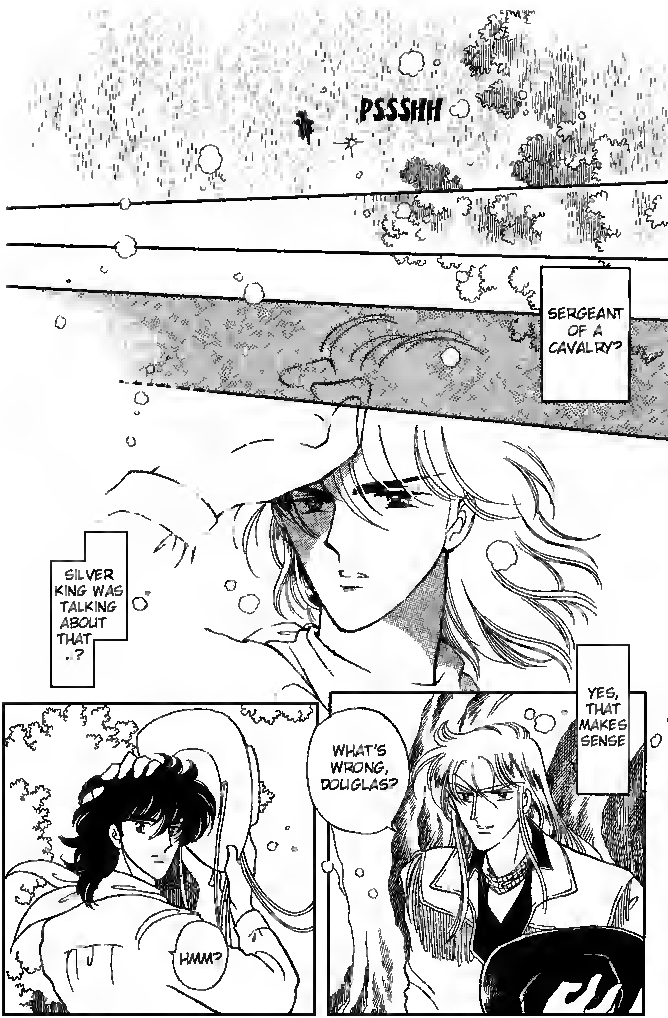
I HATE DOUGLAS!!
bam
MIRI...
AH...
NOTHING'S WRONG!
huff
puff
I...
JUST FELT LIKE YELLING
huff
MIRI...
SHE'S ...
SHE'S FRUSTRATED BECAUSE SHE'S WORRIED
I HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING TO CHEER HER UP
UM... MIRI..
DON'T WORRY.. HE.. WILL BE BACK.. UMM...
LET'S GET SOME CANNED FOOD.. OKAY?
THANKS, GRACE
BUT I'M NOT HUNGRY


creak
plop
creak
I, I WANT TO TAKE A NAP
ALL RIGHT..
I'M NO GOOD..
AT A TIME LIKE THIS.. I CAN'T EVEN CHEER HER UP
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?
OH, DOUGLAS..
I'M SORRY, GRACE
BUT I CAN'T JUST WAIT AROUND LIKE THIS

I CAN'T LET CARD AND JOEL KNOW EITHER
thunk
screech screech
MY HORSE IS IN THE WOODS, BEHIND THIS HOUSE
tap
I WANT TO SEE HIM
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR DOUGLAS
PSSshhhh
WHERE AM I GOING ON A RAINY DAY LIKE THIS, YOU ASK?
oink
oink
I MISS HIM
IT'S ALL RIGHT, I WROTE A NOTE
oink?
DON'T BE SO LOUD, WILLY!
I'VE ALREADY MADE UP MY MIND... YOU CAN'T STOP ME!
I'M GOING TO RESCUE HIM!
HE MUST'VE BEEN CARELESS AND GOT CAUGHT
YEAH. DOUGLAS IS DIFFERENT FROM DAD ...


PSSSSHHHHH
I WANT TO SEE HIM NOW
I WANT TO SEE DOUGLAS NOW...
psshh
MY WORRIES ARE OVERFLOWING INSIDE
HURRY! SHOW ME YOUR FACE!
TELL ME A STORY!
COME TO ME!

THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I WANTED TO SAY TO HIM
WE'RE ALL SAD
I DID THIS ALL FOR YOU!!
I'M SAD ...
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I DON'T UNDERSTAND
HE WATCHES MIRIAM ALL THE TIME
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I WANTED TO SAY TO HIM!!!

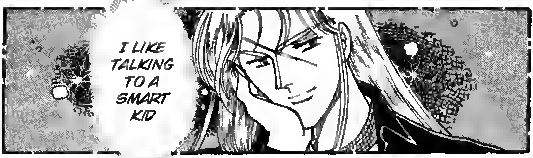

PSSSHH
SERGEANT OF A CAVALRY?
SILVER KING WAS TALKING ABOUT THAT..?
YES, THAT MAKES SENSE
WHAT'S WRONG, DOUGLAS?
HMM?

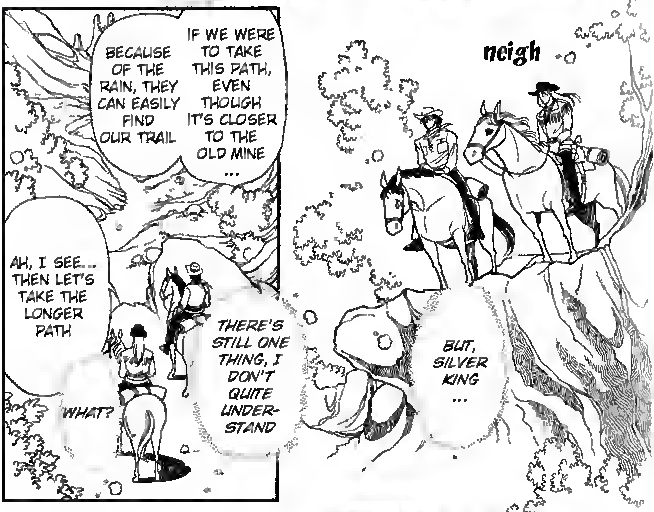
HIS NAME WAS 'FOREST BEGINS'
THE RAIN STOPPED
ONCE.. THERE WERE SOLDIERS WHO INVADED MY TOWN
THE GUYS MUST BE WORRIED
IT'S BEEN QUITE A FEW DAYS
THERE WAS A BRAWL AT THE SALOON
WE HAVE TO GO TO THEIR HIDE-OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
YEAH
IT WAS BETWEEN THE MOST POWERFUL GUY AND THE QUIETEST GUY IN TOWN
BOP

CRACK
UGH
WHAT ARE YOU ...
WAAH!
CRASH
BAS-TARD!
AAAHHH
Grab
YOU ...

HE WHO WAS SO CONFIDENT OF HIS STRENGTH...
PASSED OUT WITH A BROKEN JAW
WITH ONE PUNCH,
POW
I REMEMBER HIS FACE..
WITHOUT A WORD,
THAT BOWER IS 'FOREST BEGINS?
YOU'RE SAYING.
HE SMIRKED COLDLY...
A VERY SCARY GUY
YEAH...
WHEN YOU DESCRIBED HIS FEATURES, I REMEMBERED HIM

BUT I HEARD HE WAS DEAD
WHO THEY WERE ...
NO ONE COULD TELL ... ALL WERE COMPLETELY BURNED
ALL OF THE BODIES LOOKED ALIKE
THEY TOOK ALL OF THE MILITARY'S MONEY
THEY PROMISED TO PROTECT... BUT THE TRUTH WAS THEY DID A MASS KILLING... HE WAS ONE OF THE SOLDIERS IN THAT TROOP
PERHAPS, HE...
PROB-ABLY,
DID IT TO MAKE OTHERS THINK THAT HE WAS DEAD
ALL WERE COMPLETELY BURNED


I LIKE TALKING TO A SMART KID


BECAUSE OF THE RAIN, THEY CAN EASILY FIND OUR TRAIL
IF WE WERE TO TAKE THIS PATH, EVEN THOUGH IT'S CLOSER TO THE OLD MINE ...
AH, I SEE... THEN LET'S TAKE THE LONGER PATH
WHAT?
THERE'S STILL ONE THING, I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND
neigh
BUT, SILVER KING ...

WHO ARE YOU? ... REALLY?

HEY, DOUGLAS ...

DO YOU SEE THAT?
THAT GROUP, COMING THIS WAY.
LOOK AT THAT!
HUH?
HARNBAG!

Konnichiwa!
We have some extra space this time...

Umm...
What should I write about?

Oh yeah! I received a lot of fan-mail asking me why I'm making a western manga.

Here's the answer.

Before I started this manga, I knew nothing about the West. (But not anymore! Now, I like a lot of western things) I didn't know what to write. So, I started off by combining both comedy and some serious subjects.

It's fun to write about something different— once in a while.

To be continued.

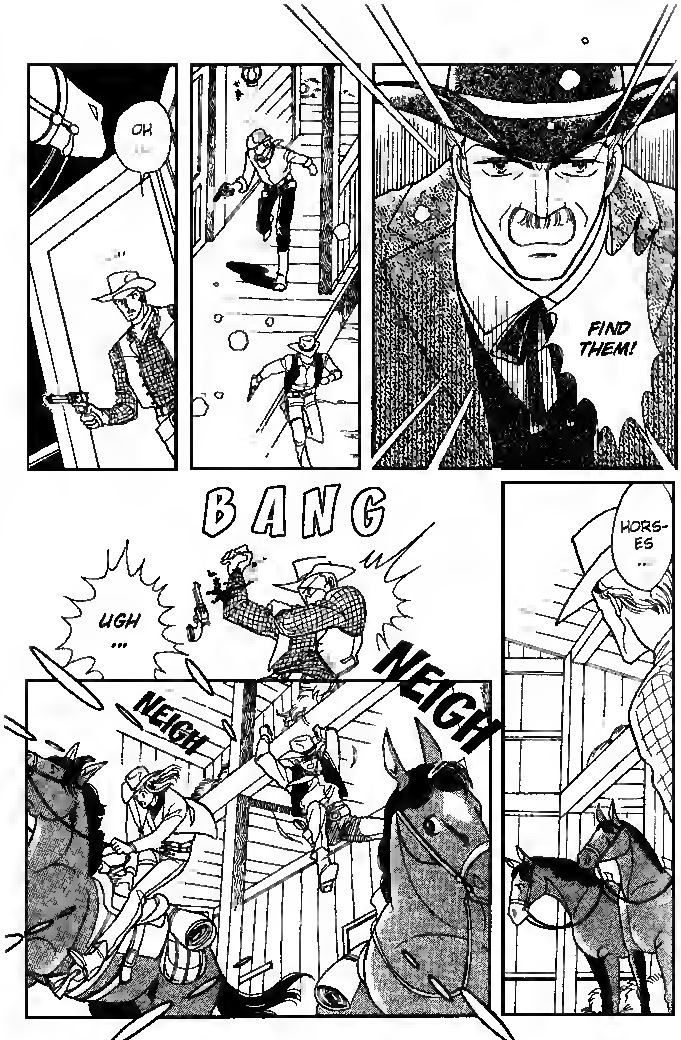
clip clop
clip
SO MURPHY DIDN'T ACTUALLY SEE THE GIRL THERE
I SEE...
OH, SILVER KING!
YEAH, HE ONLY SAW THAT LITTLE GIRL'S HORSE HEADING THAT WAY
...
YEAH
THAT MAKES SENSE!
IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT MURPHY SAW GRACE AT THAT PLACE
IN ANY CASE,
I DIDN'T FIND ANY-ONE THERE YESTERDAY
HM...

.....
SINCE FINDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN SEEMS TO BE MY JOB LATELY,
WHY DON'T I SEARCH WITH YOU!
SLAM
CARD! GRACE! MIRIAM!
LISTEN!
JOEL, THIS IS BAD!
WHAT?
LOOK! A NOTE FROM MIRIAM
SHE LEFT AGAIN
MIR-AM?

HMM...
DOUGLAS! DAMN YOU!!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!
DO...
TO LOOK FOR ME?
IF SHE'S ONLY A LITTLE MORE PATIENT
YOU MADE EVERY-ONE WORRY LIKE CRAZY!
UGH...

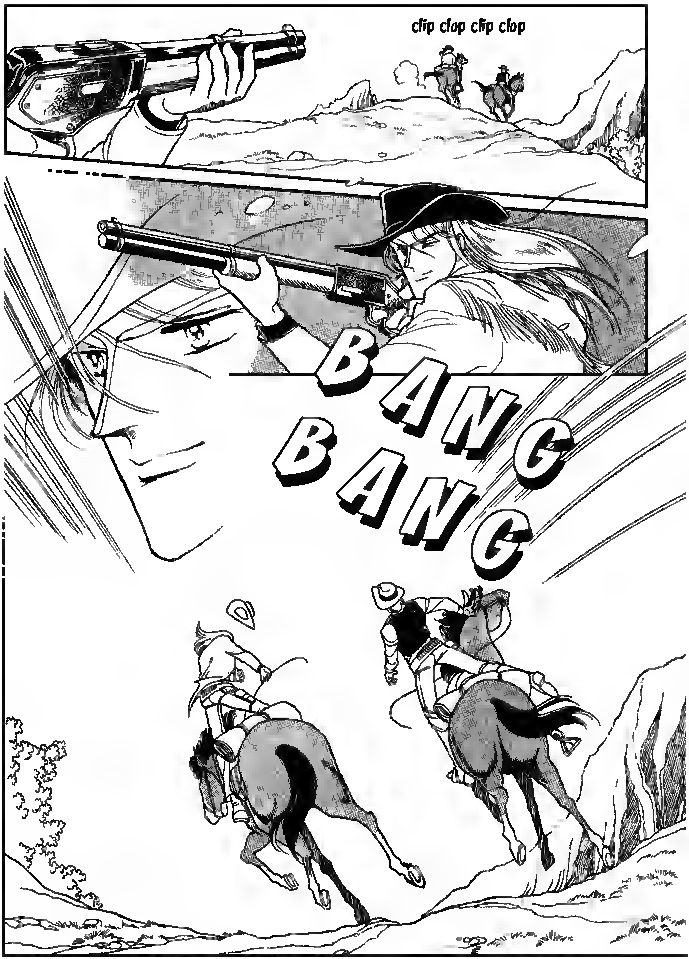
I'M WOUNDED
DON'T BE SO HARSH
CARD! JOEL! LISTEN CAREFULLY!
WHAT HAPPENED?
I'LL TELL YOU LATER
HARNBAG AND HIS MEN WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE NOW
YOUR TRACKS WERE VERY CLEAR BECAUSE OF THE RAIN
FIRST OFF, FIND A SAFE PLACE FOR GRACE!
GOT IT?
I TRIED TO FOLLOW THE SAME TRACKS, SO IT WON'T BE TOO SUSPICIOUS

WE HAVE TO LEAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT ONLY THE TWO OF YOU ARE HIDING HERE
AND THEN, WE HAVE TO COVER GRACE'S AND MIRIAM'S TRACKS,
BUT NOT OURS
OK?
SILVER KING AND HARNBAG WILL BE HERE SOON.


OH...
FIND THEM!
HORSES...
BANG
UGH...
NEIGH
NEIGH

...AND ONCE THEY GET HERE, YOU TWO TAKE OFF
IT'S THEM!
BANG BANG
WHAT'RE YOU GUYS DOING?!
GET 'EM!
NO! STAY BACK!

DON'T WASTE YOUR BULLETS
AHH...
I TOLD YOU, RIGHT? THEY'RE MINE
click
HMM...
WATCH CAREFULLY


clip clop clip clop
BANG
BANG

whoosh
tumble
IT'S BETTER OFF THAT YOU DIE
TOO BAD, KIDS.

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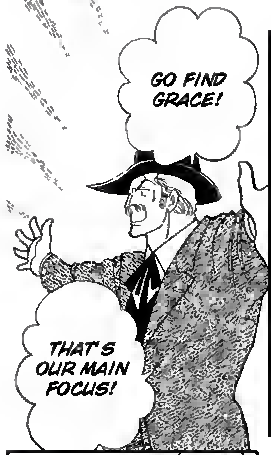
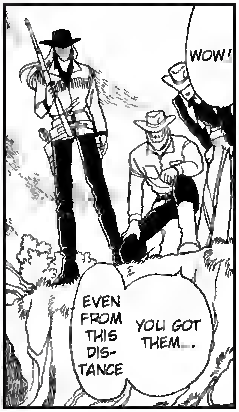
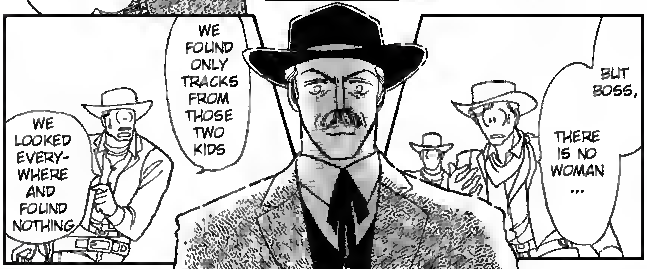
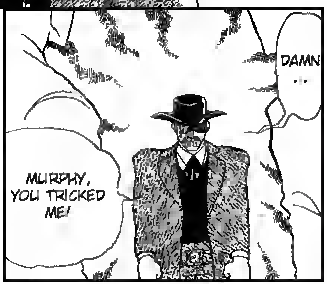
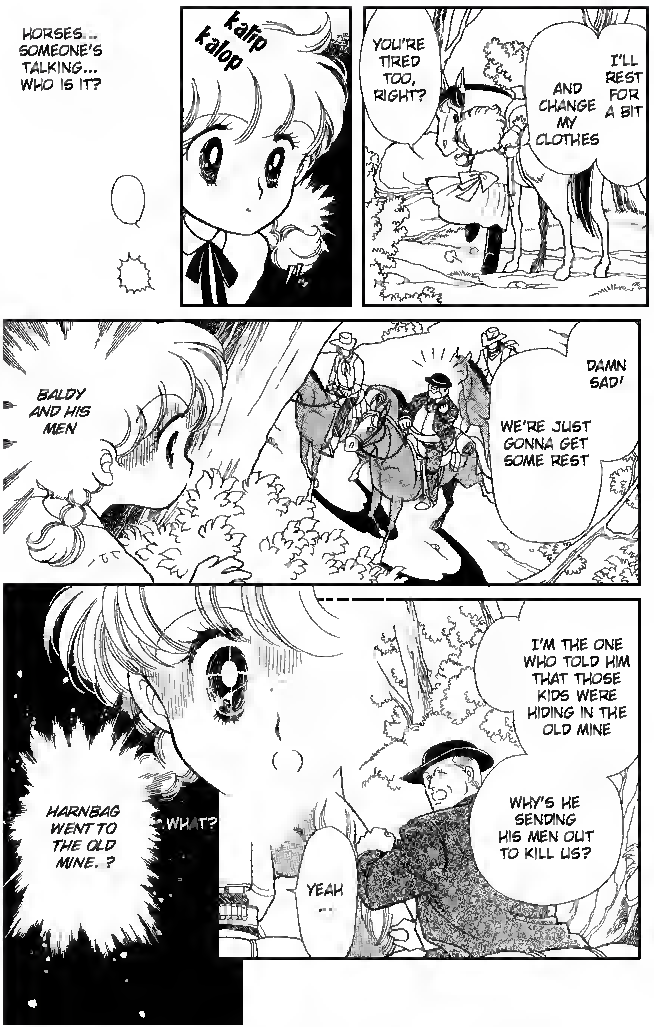


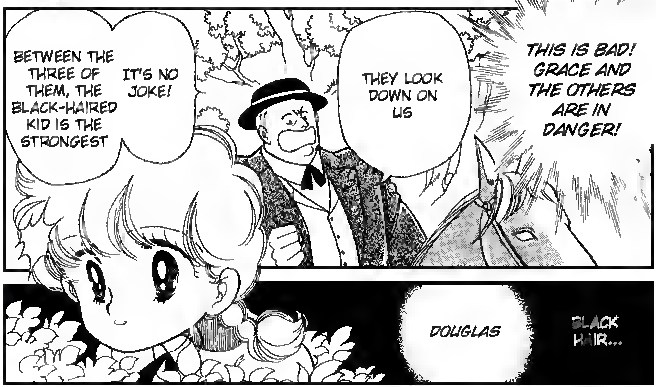


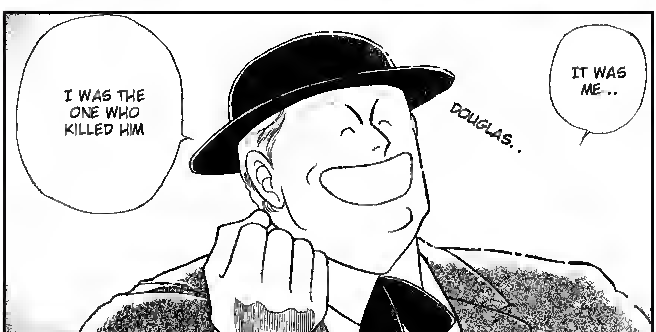




CARD, JOEL
IT'S SAFE NOW, BOYS ...
HARN-BAG'S GUL-LIBLE ...
HMM ..
THE RAIN STOPPED... IT'S CLEAR NOW


HORSES... SOMEONE'S TALKING... WHO IS IT?
k-klop k-klop
YOU'RE TIRED TOO, RIGHT?
I'LL REST FOR A BIT AND CHANGE MY CLOTHES
BALDY AND HIS MEN
DAMN SAD!
WE'RE JUST GONNA GET SOME REST
I'M THE ONE WHO TOLD HIM THAT THOSE KIDS WERE HIDING IN THE OLD MINE
WHY'S HE SENDING HIS MEN OUT TO KILL US?
YEAH...
WHAT?
HARNBAG WENT TO THE OLD MINE.?

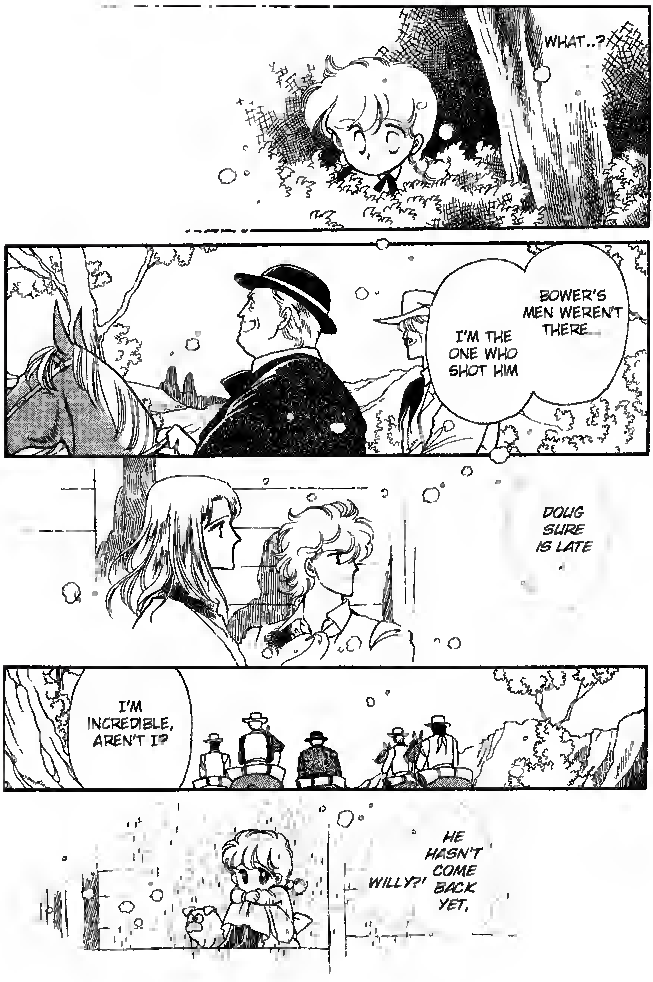

BETWEEN THE THREE OF THEM, THE BLACK-HAIRED KID IS THE STRONGEST
IT'S NO JOKE!
THEY LOOK DOWN ON US
THIS IS BAD! GRACE AND THE OTHERS ARE IN DANGER!
DOUGLAS
BLACK HAIR...


I WAS THE ONE WHO KILLED HIM
DOUGLAS..
IT WAS ME..

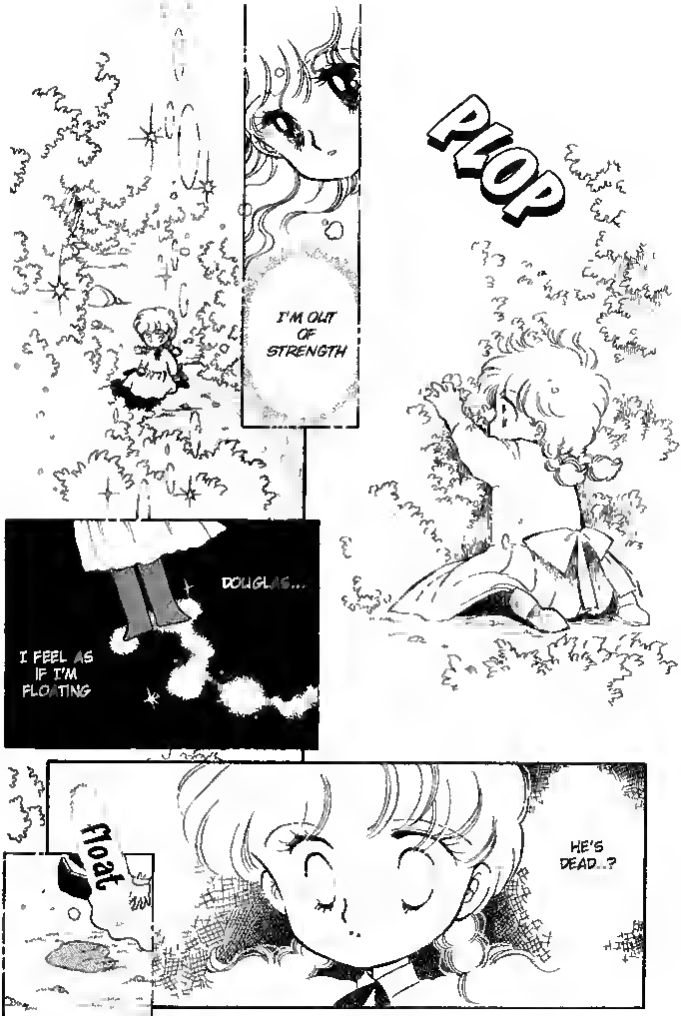
WHAT?!

DON'T WORRY, GRACE
WE CAN FIND MIRIAM IF WE GO THAT WAY
JUST WAIT HERE!
WE'LL LOOK FOR THE HORSES FIRST
HOW DO YOU THINK MIRIAM WILL REACT, WHEN SHE SEES YOUR FACE?
YEAH
SHE COULDN'T SIT STILL .. SHE'S BEEN ANXIOUSLY WAITING FOR YOUR RETURN
HMM... THAT BRAT
EVEN THOUGH SHE TALKS BIG .. SHE'S ACTUALLY PRETTY THOUGHTFUL ..
THAT TOMBOY

I KILLED THE BLACK-HAIRED KID!
IT WAS ME!
I'M RIGHT HERE, MIRIAM!
JUST NOW ...
WHAT DID HE SAY..?
RIGHT IN THE HEART
ONE SHOT,

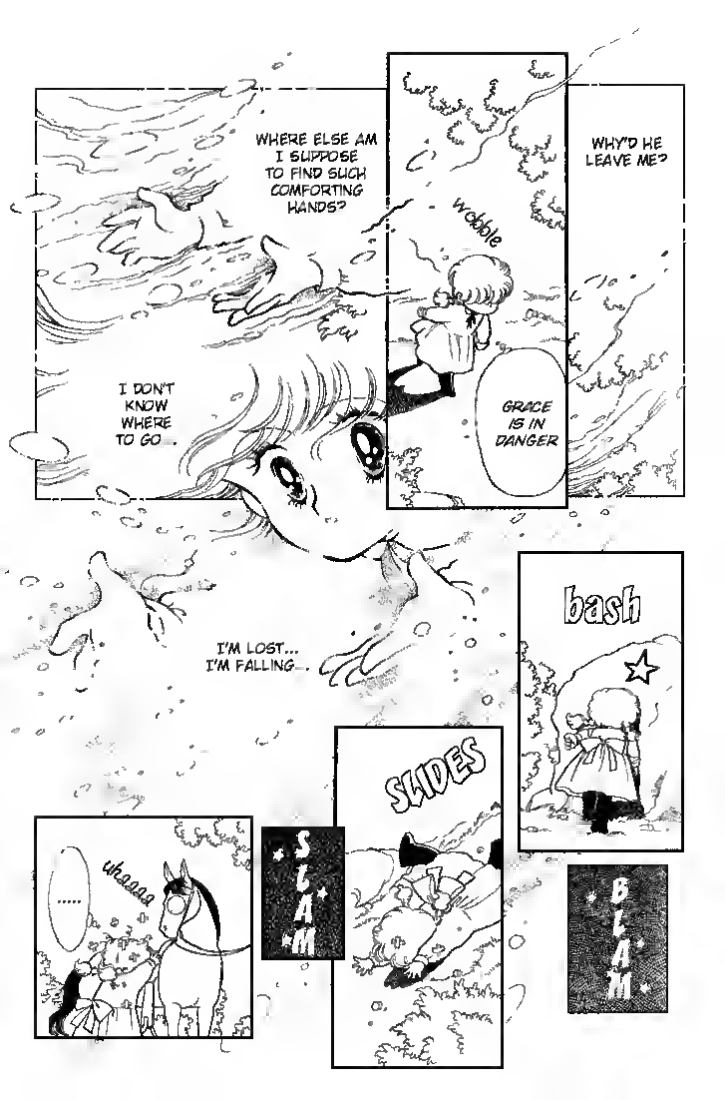

WHAT..?
BOWER'S MEN WEREN'T THERE...
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOT HIM
DOLIG SURE IS LATE
I'M INCREDIBLE, AREN'T I?
WILLY?
HE HASN'T COME BACK YET.

SHRUSH!
DOUGLAS
RIGHT HERE...


I'M OUT OF STRENGTH
PLOP
DOUGLAS...
I FEEL AS IF I'M FLOATING
Float
HE'S DEAD..?

DOUGLAS SAID,
THAT MIRIAM DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO BE SPOILED
BUT WHY CAN'T MY FEET TOUCH IT..?
I CAN SEE THE GROUND CLEARLY,
HE'S ALWAYS WATCHING OVER MIRIAM
PLEASE, GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
PLEASE, PULL ME DOWN
HELP ME

I KILLED HIM!
I HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE MINE


WHERE ELSE AM I SUPPOSE TO FIND SUCH COMFORTING HANDS?
WHY'D HE LEAVE ME?
wobble
I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GO...
GRACE IS IN DANGER
I'M LOST... I'M FALLING...
bash
SLIDES
SLAM
BLAM
uhaaaa
.....

I WANTED TO RESCUE HIM
I FIXED THE ROOF
THEN WE CAN GO FISHING TOGETHER
WITHOUT SAYING A WORD ...
HE LEFT AFTER THAT STUPID FIGHT
THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU SO MAD
WITHOUT AN APOLOGY ...

CLICK
MURPHY
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE
turns
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WH..
WHAT'S THIS?!

clip
WE.. WE'RE THE ONE
I'LL GO AHEAD FIRST
OH THAT,
THERE WERE ONLY TWO KIDS ...
SILVER KING ALREADY KILLED THEM BOTH
BUT..
YOU SAID THAT I COULD FIND GRACE THERE, BUT THAT'S NOT THE TRUTH IS IT?!
YOU PISSED ME OFF, MURPHY!!
WHO DO YOU THINK HAS TO DEAL WITH MISTER BOWER?!
CAPTURE THEM!! TAKE THEM TO MISTER BOWER!!

Besides, I think that a western theme'll make an interesting action manga (maybe that's what got me started in the first place)

I had fun creating the characters

First, I started with the male characters (I chose 3 young men) I thought that if I made them too nice, it'll be boring. So, I gave them naughty characteristics

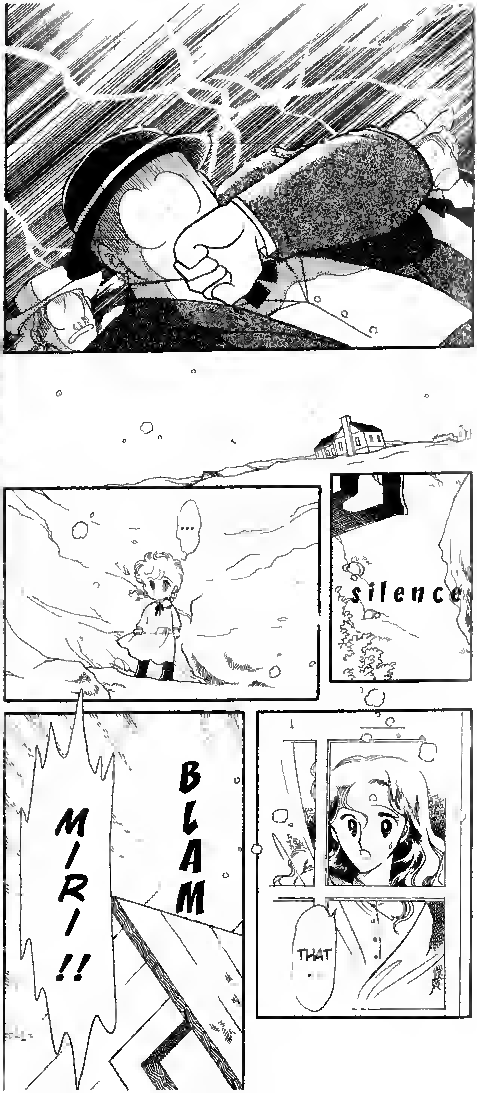
Next, I added a beautiful woman, and then of course, little Miriam.

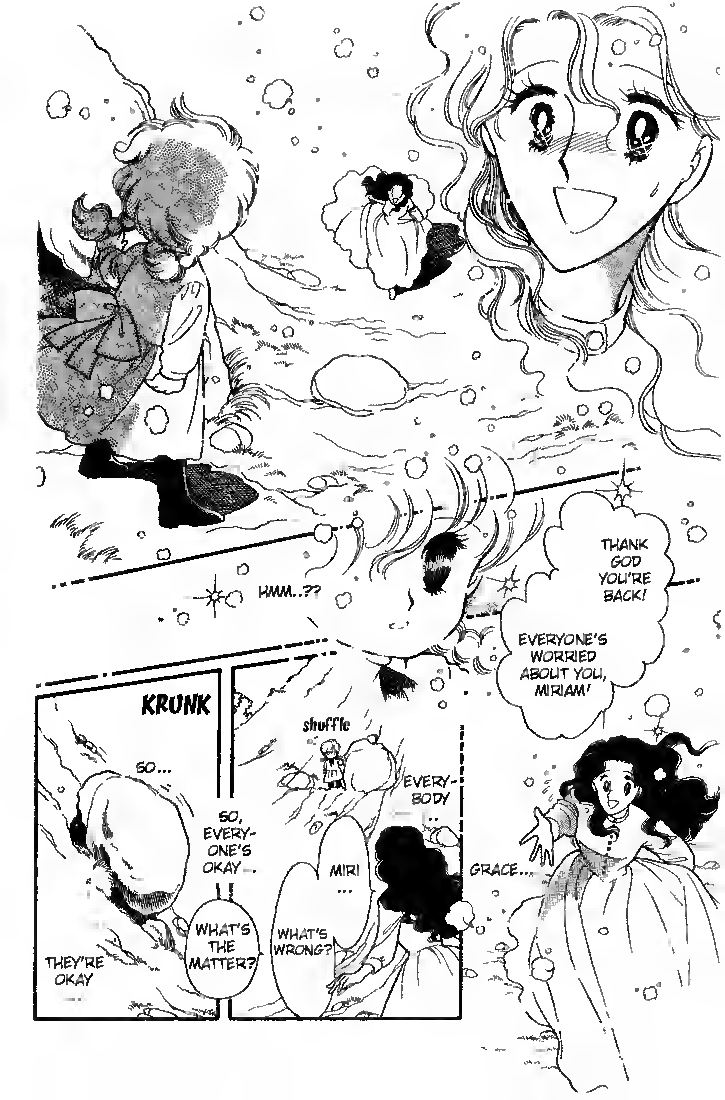
At first, they may seem a bit rough around the edges but they're act wolly very good people

For the antagonist, I created a character who controls a small town and is backed up by a reverend (the reverend is actually a huge criminal in disguise) I didn't want to create just an ordinary antagonist because again it'll be too boring

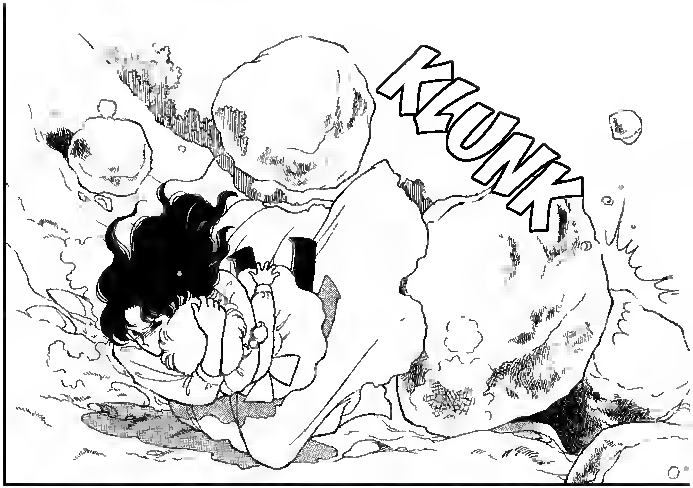
I think this manga began as a comedy, but when I started developing the character Mr Bauer

To be continued



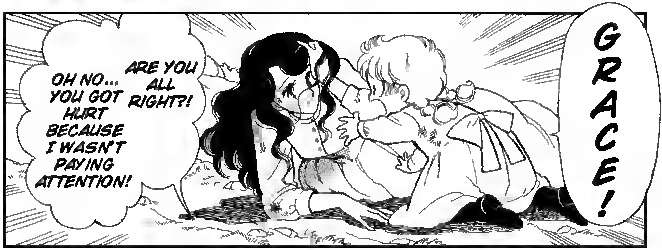

HMM..??
THANK GOD YOU'RE BACK!
EVERYONE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU, MIRIAM!
GRACE...
KRUNK
shuffle
SO...
THEY'RE OKAY...
SO, EVERY-ONE'S OKAY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
EVERY-BODY...
MIRI...
WHAT'S WRONG?

CLUNK
THAT BOULDER'S HEADING YOUR WAY!
MIRI, LOOK OUT!!
MIRI!
LUNGE
TUMBLE
BOULDER... WHAT..?

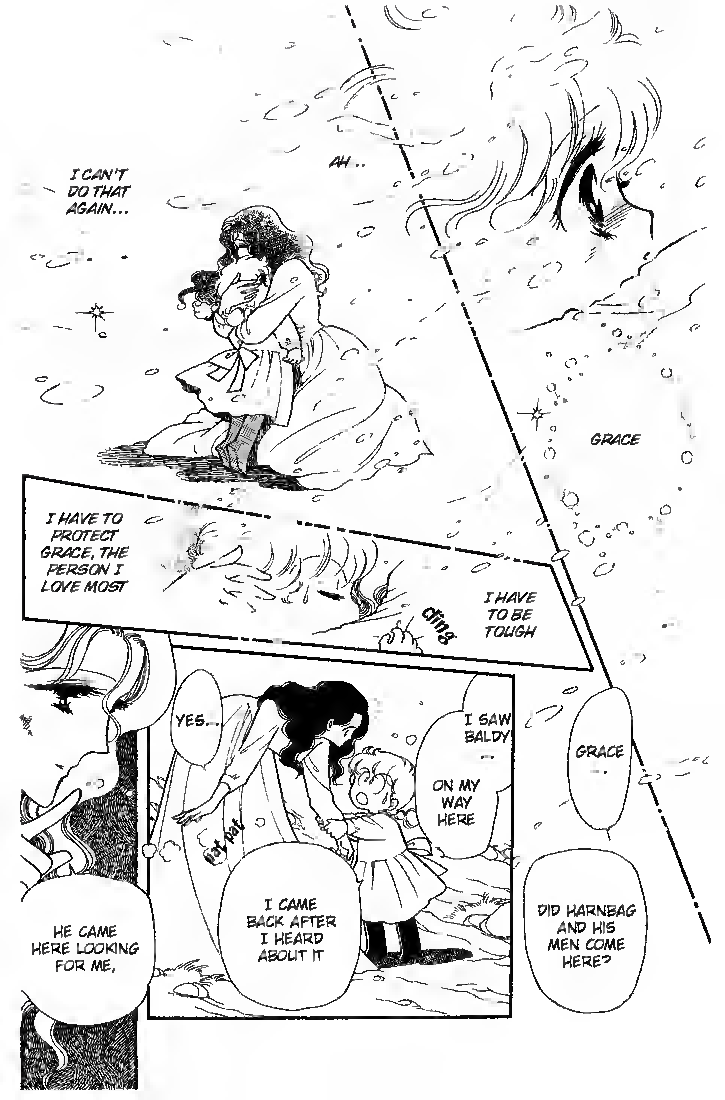

KLUNK

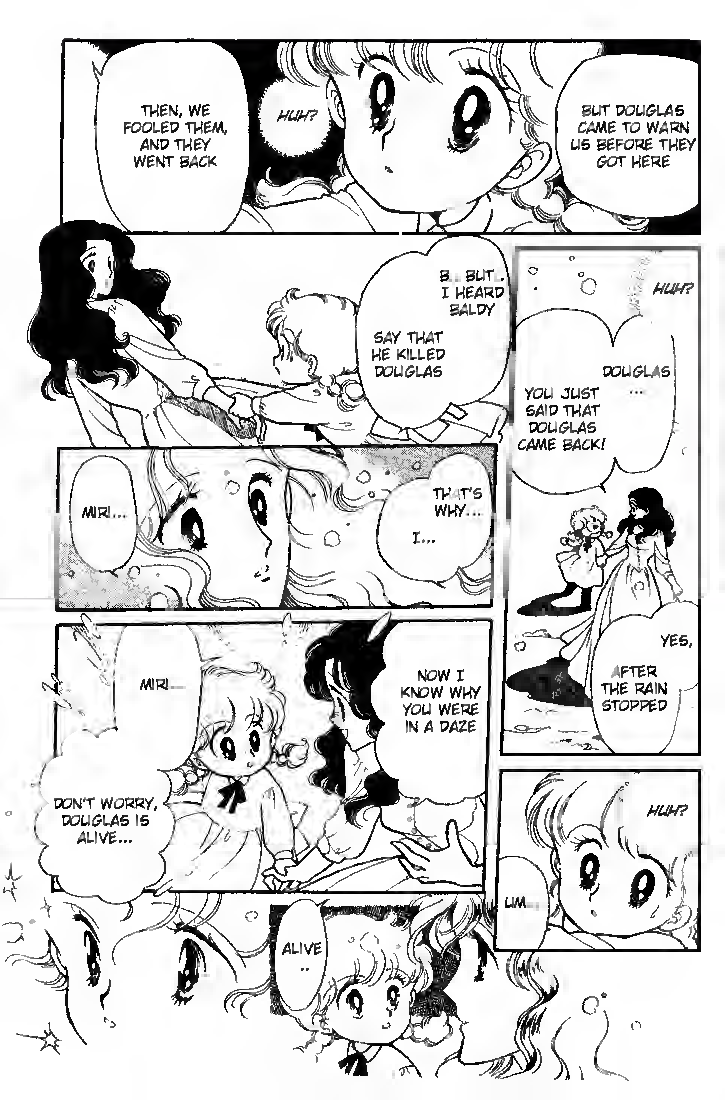
AH

croonk
croonk


OH NO... YOU GOT HURT BECAUSE I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
GRACE!

YES
I'M HAPPY!
I RESCUED YOU!
BLOOD
IT'S OKAY ..
IT'S JUST A LITTLE SCRATCH
SQUEEZE
I'M PRETTY USEFUL AFTERALL .
OH, I'M SO HAPPY
GRACE, I'M SORRY I...
NO!


I CAN'T DO THAT AGAIN...
AH..
GRACE
I HAVE TO PROTECT GRACE, THE PERSON I LOVE MOST
clang
I HAVE TO BE TOUGH
GRACE
I SAW BALDY ... ON MY WAY HERE
YES..
pat pat
I CAME BACK AFTER I HEARD ABOUT IT
DID HARNBAG AND HIS MEN COME HERE?
HE CAME HERE LOOKING FOR ME,


THEN, WE FOOLED THEM, AND THEY WENT BACK
HUH?
BUT DOUGLAS CAME TO WARN US BEFORE THEY GOT HERE
B... BUT, I HEARD BALDY SAY THAT HE KILLED DOUGLAS
HUH?
DOUGLAS ...
YOU JUST SAID THAT DOUGLAS CAME BACK!
MIRI...
THAT'S WHY... I...
YES, AFTER THE RAIN STOPPED
MIRI—
NOW I KNOW WHY YOU WERE IN A DAZE
DON'T WORRY, DOUGLAS IS ALIVE...
HUH?
UM...
ALIVE ..

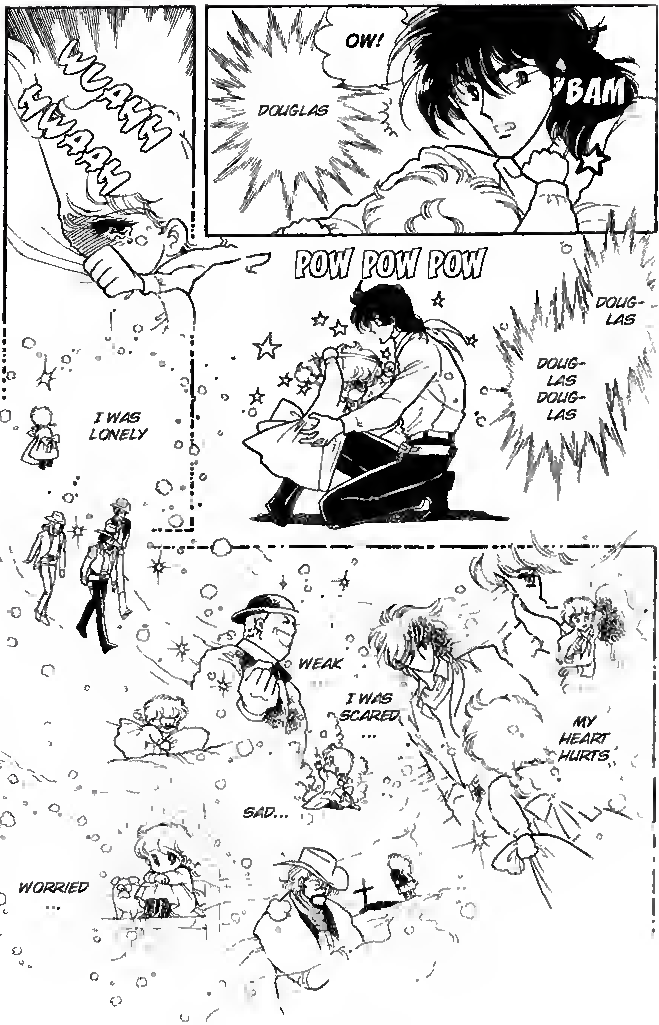
THEY WERE JUST ABOUT TO GO LOOK FOR YOU
SO, YOU HEARD THAT I WAS DEAD?
...
BALDY MUST'VE THOUGHT SO...
GOOD THING MY POCKET-WATCH STOPPED HIS BULLET
tap

I'M GETTING BETTER ALREADY
I'M WOUNDED, BUT IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS
ruffle
HEY!
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
HURRY ...
PSSSHHHH!!!
DOUGLAS

MIRIAM?
COME BACK AND SEE!
...
APPEAR BEFORE ME
I...
poke
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?
TALK TO ME
I HAVE SO MUCH TO TELL YOU...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT
BUT I KNOW THERE'S A LOT

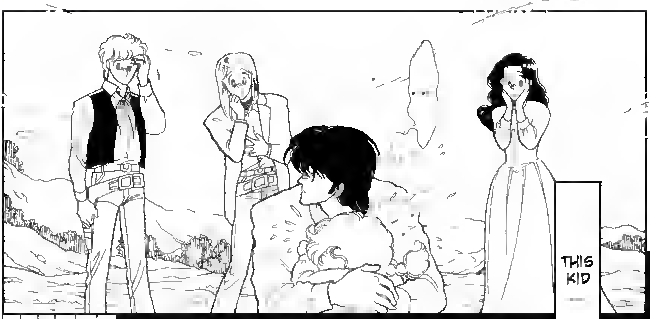
A LOT....
UWAAAA

HUWAAAAAA
WAAAAAAA
HUWW
MIRIAM...

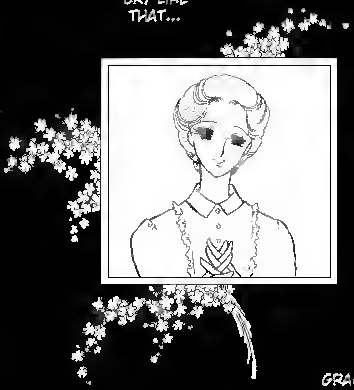

WUAAH
WUAAH
OW!
DOUGLAS
BAM
POW POW POW
DOUG-
LAS
DOUG-
LAS
DOUG-
LAS
I WAS
LONELY
WEAK
...
I WAS
SCARED
...
MY
HEART
HURTS
...
SAD...
WORRIED
...

I HAD IT ALL BOTTLED UP
LONELY, HURT, SCARED
IT OVERFLOWED INSIDE... NOW IT'S ALL OVER
SADNESS, WEAKNESS, DISTRESSED
IT'S OVER

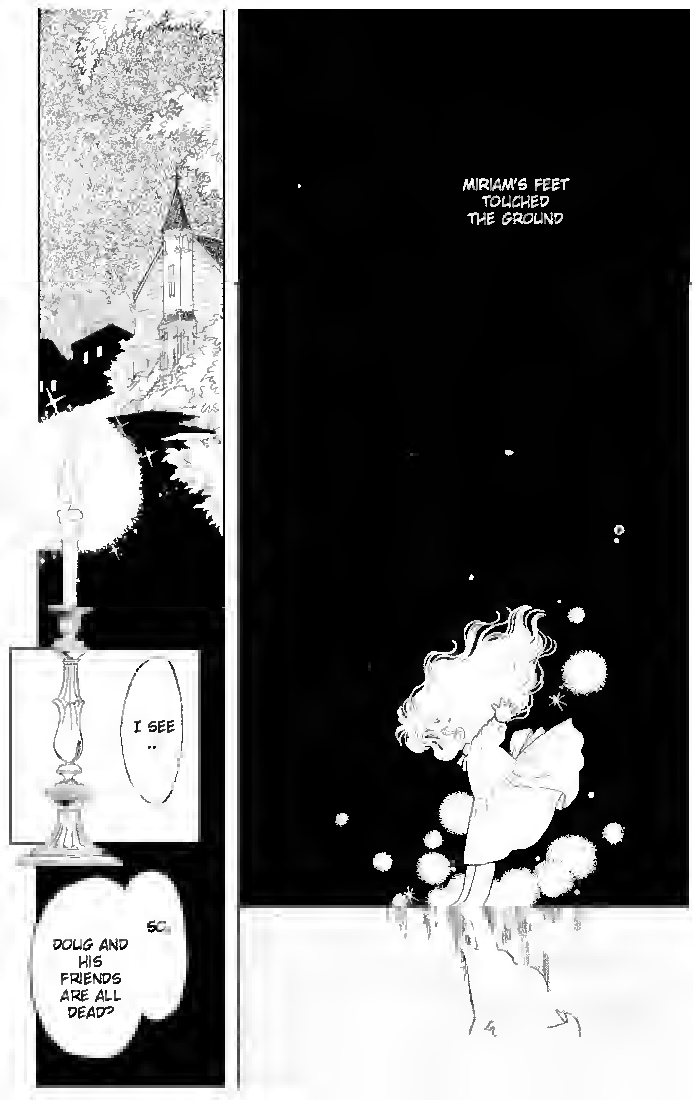
hic
hic
HWUAAH


THIS KID

THAT TIME ...

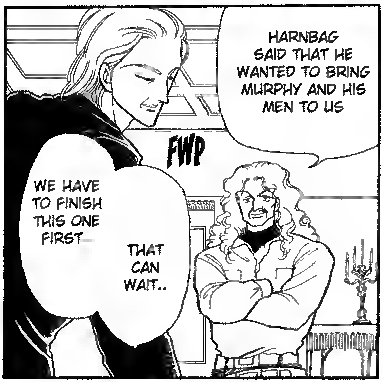

THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN HER CRY LIKE THAT...
GRACE SAID THAT WITH A SMILE

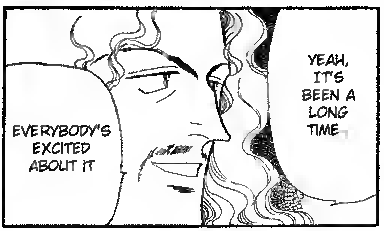
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME...


MIRIAM'S FEET TOUCHED THE GROUND
I SEE ..
SO, DOUG AND HIS FRIENDS ARE ALL DEAD?

#Mangasync@efnet
http://mangasync.org

JUST THE GOLD BARS THEMSELVES ARE WORTH 60 THOUSAND BUCKS
IT'S MORE THAN ENOUGH
AND NOT ONLY THAT, WE CAN ALSO ROB THE PASSENGERS



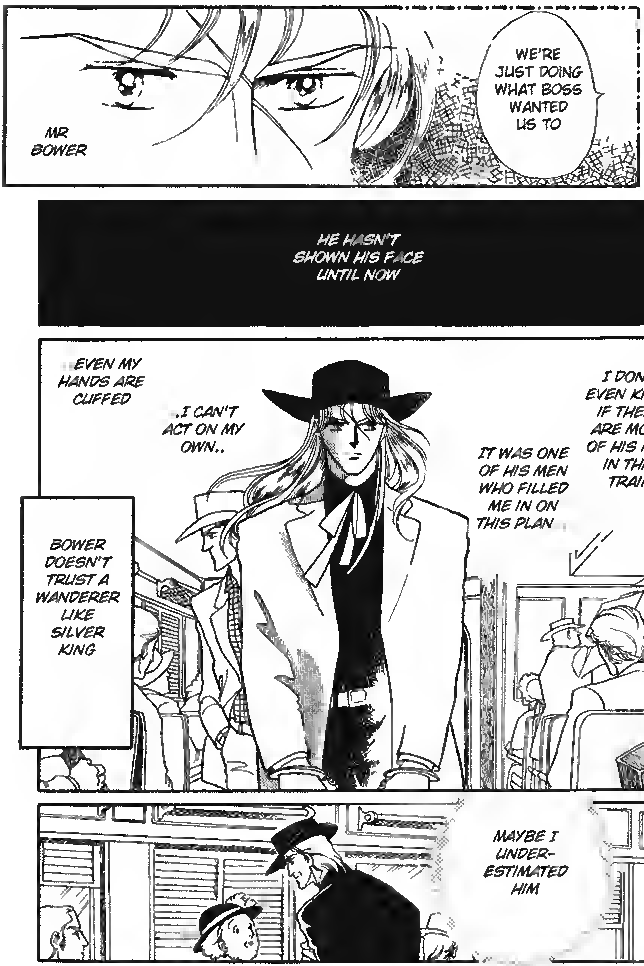


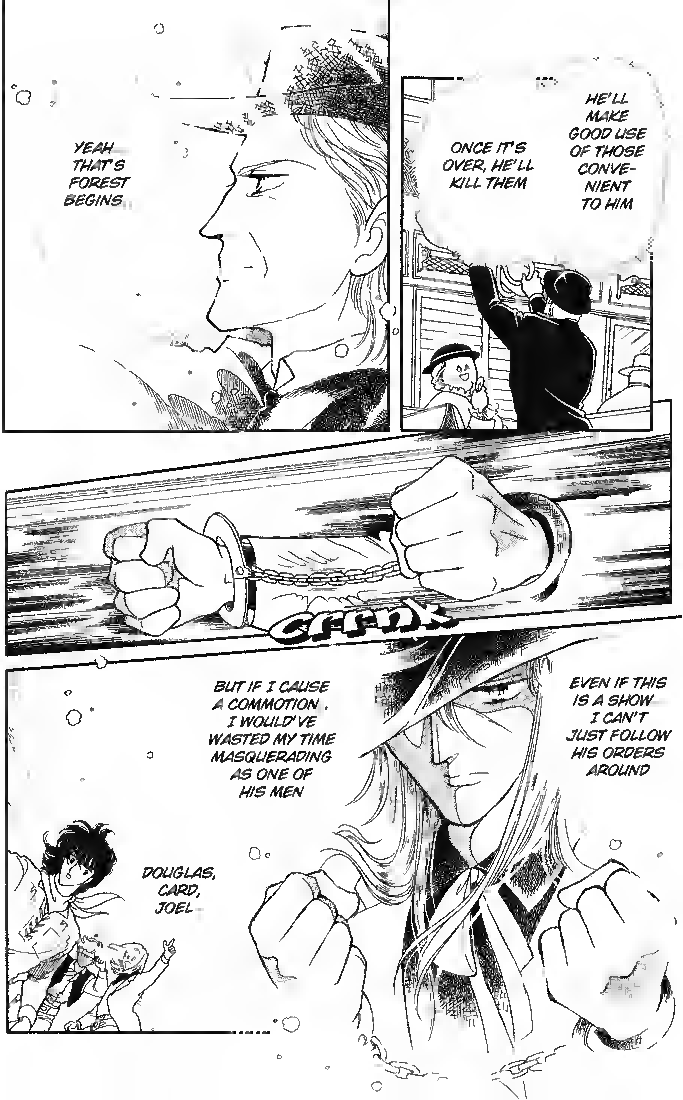
THE GOLD ISN'T THE ONLY THING WE NEED TO FOCUS ON
WE HAVE TO PUT ON A GOOD SHOW
AND ..
WHEN IT'S ALL OVER..
..SUB-MERGED..
WE'LL LEAVE
IN A SEA OF FIRE
THIS TOWN.

TOOOOT
CHUF

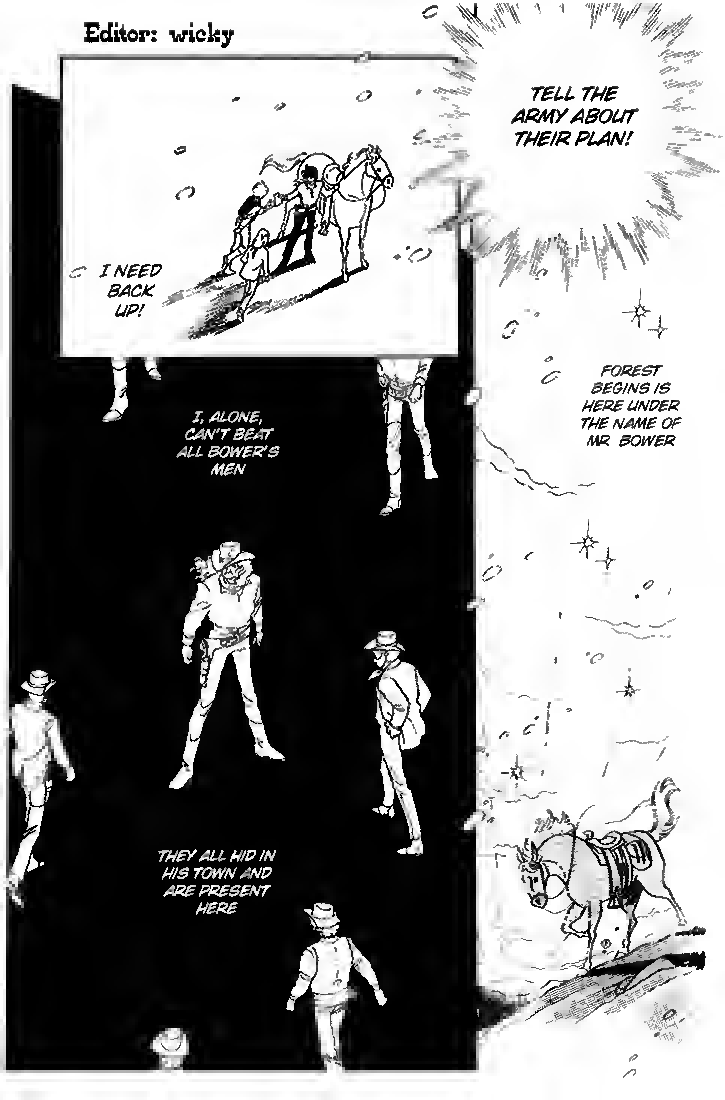
HE LOOKS LIKE THAT GUY IN THE WANTED POSTERS
IS THAT SILVER KING?
SCREEK
NO WONDER
YEAH
WE HAVE TO BE NICE TO THEM, TO AVOID COMPLICATIONS,
"SHERIFF"
HEY, LISTEN TO THAT.
YOU'RE THE CENTER OF ATTENTION
ARE THEY THE ONES GUARDING THE GOLD, "DEPUTY"?
WELL
IF THIS GUY RUNS AWAY
pat
WE CAN ASK THEM FOR HELP

HWAAA
Crrk
THIS !!
I DON'T LIKE BEING TREATED LIKE THIS!
I DON'T LIKE IT
WHAT?
I... IDIOT! PUT IT DOWN
ACT LIKE A BAD GUY!
IT'S VERY SUSPICIOUS IF YOU'RE LIKE THIS
Hmph
A CRIMINAL SHOULDN'T HAVE MORE POWER THAN US
HERE, GIVE ME YOUR OTHER HAND! I'LL CUFF IT TOO!
JUST LISTEN TO US FOR NOW
WHEN THE TIME COMES, WE'LL LET YOU GO


MR BOWER
WE'RE JUST DOING WHAT BOSS WANTED US TO
HE HASN'T SHOWN HIS FACE UNTIL NOW
EVEN MY HANDS ARE CUFFED
..I CAN'T ACT ON MY OWN..
IT WAS ONE OF HIS MEN WHO FILLED ME IN ON THIS PLAN
I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THERE ARE MORE OF HIS MEN IN THIS TRAIN
BOWER DOESN'T TRUST A WANDERER LIKE SILVER KING
MAYBE I UNDER-ESTIMATED HIM


YEAH THAT'S FOREST BEGINS.
ONCE IT'S OVER, HE'LL KILL THEM
HE'LL MAKE GOOD USE OF THOSE CONVE- NIENT TO HIM
CRRNK
BUT IF I CAUSE A COMMOTION, I WOULD'VE WASTED MY TIME MASQUERADING AS ONE OF HIS MEN
EVEN IF THIS IS A SHOW I CAN'T JUST FOLLOW HIS ORDERS AROUND
DOUGLAS, CARD, JOEL

Editor: wicky


I NEED BACK UP!
TELL THE ARMY ABOUT THEIR PLAN!
I, ALONE, CAN'T BEAT ALL BOWER'S MEN
FOREST BEGINS IS HERE UNDER THE NAME OF MR. BOWER
THEY ALL HID IN HIS TOWN AND ARE PRESENT HERE

UNDER-COVER? AS A WOMAN?
DON'T BE SO LOUD! MIRIAM'S ASLEEP!
SSHH!!
IT'S A REALLY GOOD TIME TO CAPTURE THEM ALL!
AH

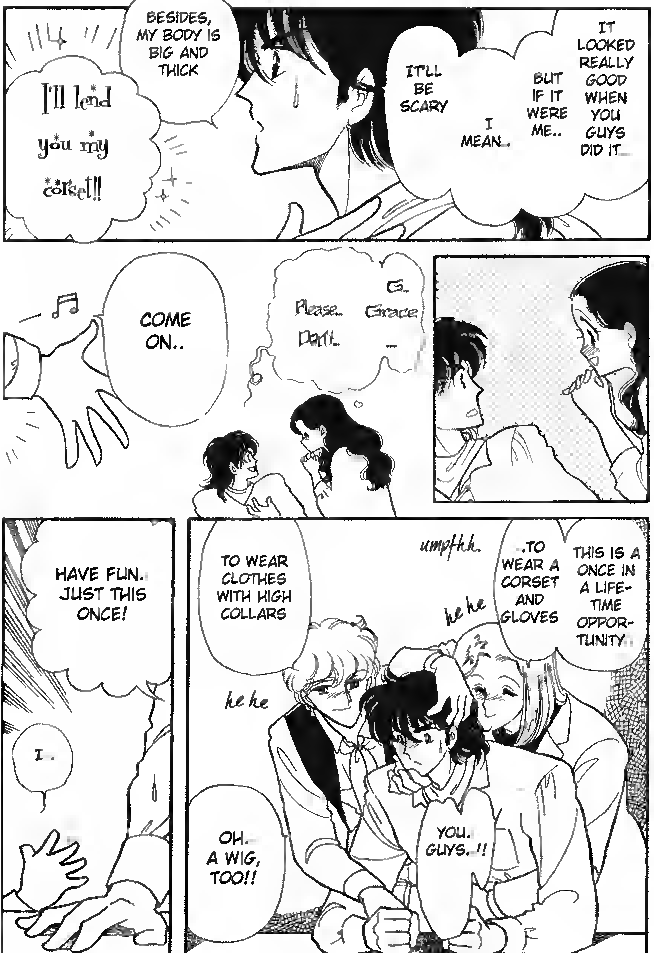
The story became quite serious! I'm just glad that it's over now.

No one died in this manga (yet in the rough draft, several died, but in the end they were only wounded). Ah... maybe the ending's too predictable. I can't help it, I love happy endings! My manager asked if this was a western shoujo manga, and I said, "what else could this be?"

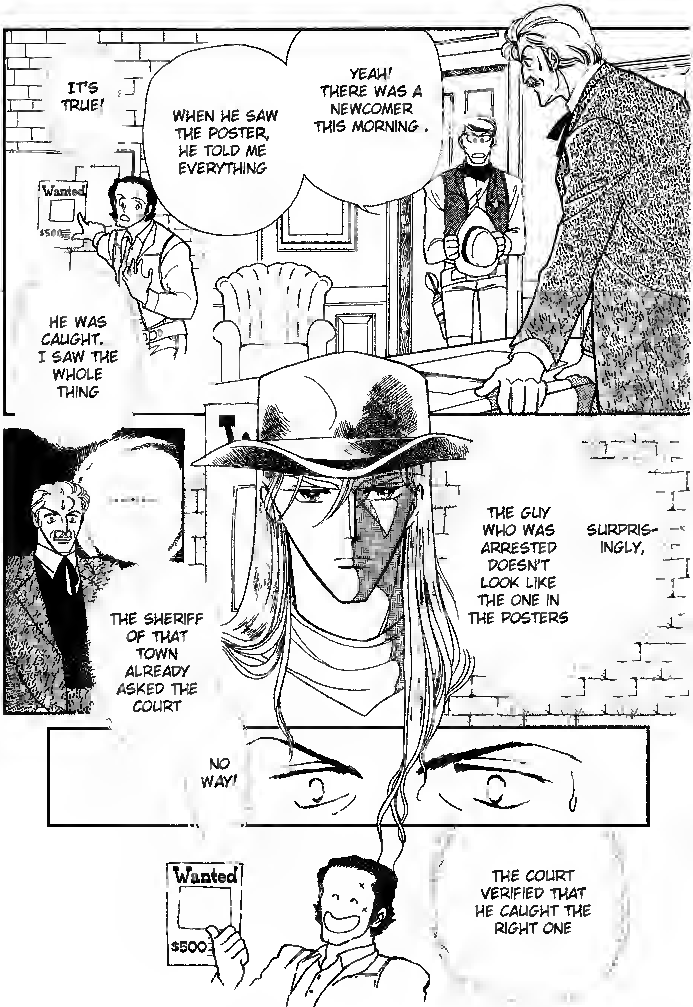
I think that there's too many male characters in shounen (action) manga. In movies too, the lead characters are mostly men. It's as if women are incapable of being a strong character. So, I thought that we should have more female leading characters, but...

~to be continued~

shing
THIS IS THE PLAN
I'LL BE THE ONE TO TELL THE ARMY,
CARD WILL BE HERE TO GUARD GRACE
DOUG SHOULD GO AND HELP HUEY... BOARD THE TRAIN FROM ONE OF THE TRAIN STATIONS
WHAT!?
BUT IF YOU SHOW UP LIKE THIS, THERE'S A CHANCE OF YOU GETTING CAUGHT BY HARNBAG'S MEN. YOU HAVE NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE
LET'S GO BACK TO THE RANCH. GRACE HAS SOME CLOTHES AND MAKE-UP
ah
UHH
IF YOU LIKE IT SO MUCH, WHY DON'T YOU...


I'll lend you my corset!!
BESIDES, MY BODY IS BIG AND THICK
IT'LL BE SCARY
I MEAN..
BUT IF IT WERE ME..
IT LOOKED REALLY GOOD WHEN YOU GUYS DID IT
COME ON..
Please.. Don't..
G.. Grace ..
HAVE FUN. JUST THIS ONCE!
I.
TO WEAR CLOTHES WITH HIGH COLLARS
umphh.
he he
..TO WEAR A CORSET AND GLOVES
THIS IS A ONCE IN A LIFE-TIME OPPOR-TUNITY
he he
OH. A WIG, TOO!!
YOU. GUYS..!!

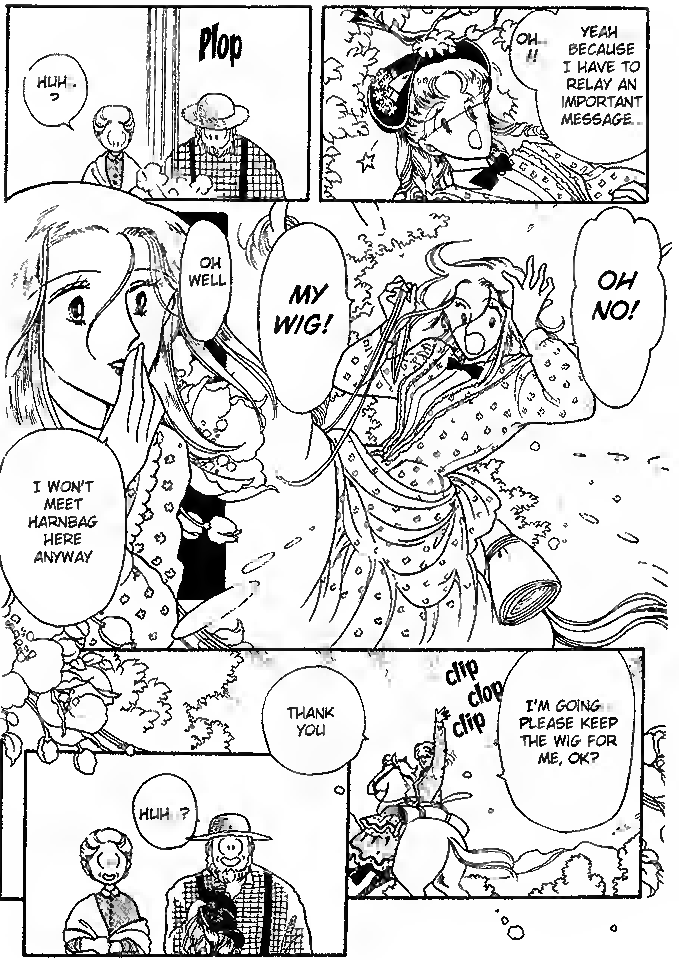
I'LL APPLY THE MAKE-UP
WHAT ...!?
HARNBAG RESIDENCE
.....
SHE'S JIGGLING WITH EXCITE-MENT
SILVER KING
WAS ARRESTED IN ANOTHER TOWN!?

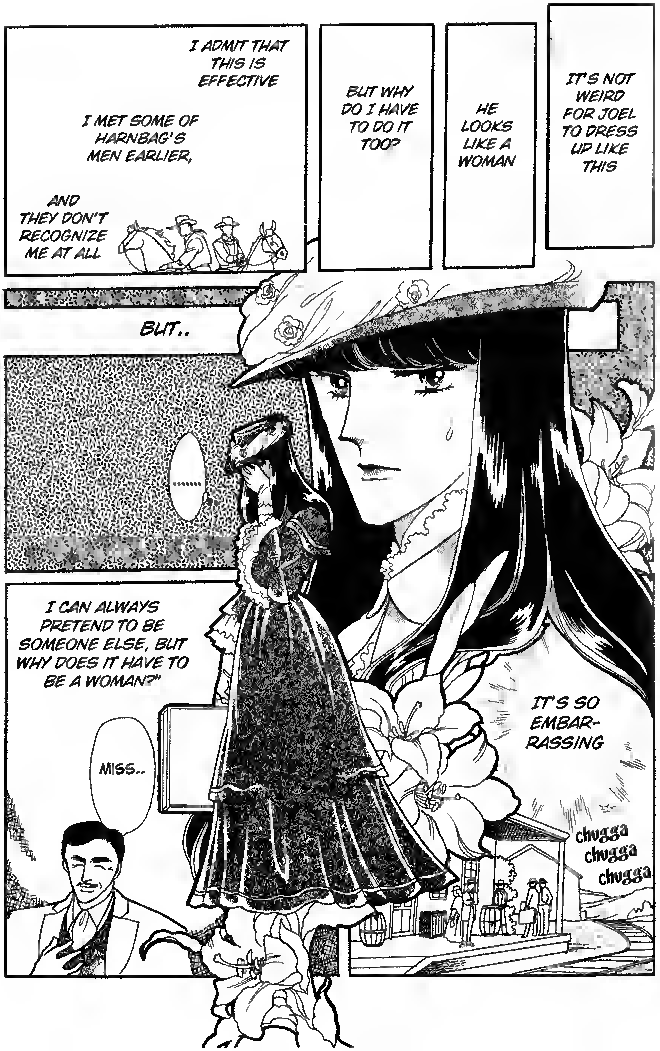

IT'S TRUE!
Wanted
$500
HE WAS CAUGHT. I SAW THE WHOLE THING
WHEN HE SAW THE POSTER, HE TOLD ME EVERYTHING
YEAH! THERE WAS A NEWCOMER THIS MORNING.
THE SHERIFF OF THAT TOWN ALREADY ASKED THE COURT
THE GUY WHO WAS ARRESTED DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE ONE IN THE POSTERS
SURPRISINGLY,
NO WAY!
Wanted
$500
THE COURT VERIFIED THAT HE CAUGHT THE RIGHT ONE

HMM.. A FAKE SILVER KING...?
.....
LET IT GO!
HUH ?
DID YOU HEAR ME??
JUST GO HOME!
UH MM ..
THEN ..WHO IS HE?
ANYONE?
DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS!
BUT!!
AL-RIGHT!

I CAN'T RUN AWAY IF ANYTHING HAPPENS
BAM
HE TOLD ME TO SHUT UP..
THIS IS NOT GOOD!
I HAVE AN IDEA
IF MURPHY GETS CAUGHT, IT MEANS THAT I'M IN DANGER, TOO
THEY'LL KNOW WHO ELSE IS INVOLVED
hmm
I DON'T LIKE THIS TOWN ANYMORE!
LOOK! I'VE SAVED THIS MUCH MONEY! IF I HAVE THIS..
..I CAN JUST MOVE AND START OVER
NO! THERE'S ONE MORE THING THAT I WANT..

GRACE
THANK YOU,
FOR TRADING HORSES WITH ME
MINE WAS WORN OUT FROM RIDING ALL DAY... YOU GUYS ARE REALLY HELPFUL
I'LL RETURN THE FAVOR SOMEDAY
I'M IN A HURRY RIGHT NOW
OH... YOU DON'T HAVE TO, MISS
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, BUT...
..A GENTLE GIRL LIKE YOU STILL HAVE LONG JOURNEY AHEAD?


Plop
HUH . ?
OH . . !!
YEAH BECAUSE I HAVE TO RELAY AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE..
OH NO!
MY WIG!
OH WELL
I WON'T MEET HARNBAG HERE ANYWAY
I'M GOING PLEASE KEEP THE WIG FOR ME, OK?
clip clop clip
THANK YOU
HUH ?


IT'S NOT WEIRD FOR JOEL TO DRESS UP LIKE THIS
HE LOOKS LIKE A WOMAN
BUT WHY DO I HAVE TO DO IT TOO?
I ADMIT THAT THIS IS EFFECTIVE
I MET SOME OF HARNBAG'S MEN EARLIER,
AND THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE ME AT ALL
BUT..
.....
I CAN ALWAYS PRETEND TO BE SOMEONE ELSE, BUT WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE A WOMAN?"
IT'S SO EMBARRASSING
MISS..
chugga chugga chugga

AND I'M ALL ALONE... WHAT A COINCIDENCE. I'M LOOKING FOR COMPANY
I'M IN THE SPECIAL CART.
I'M GOING TO ST. LOUIS FOR BUSINESS...
WHAT DOES THIS GUY WANT?
OH... YOU LOOK SO MUCH LIKE MY LATE WIFE
WHERE ARE YOU HEADING?
I WISH HE'D STOP PESTERING ME...
TOOOT
STUPID! IF I START TALKING, I'LL BE FOUND OUT
I LIKE THAT
YOU'RE SO SHY YOU DON'T SAY A WORD!
AND BOWER'S MEN
Psssth
HUEY
THEY'RE ON THIS TRAIN
CHUG CHUG
HMM..
HOW ABOUT SITTING IN MY CART WITH ME?
IT'LL BE FUN
IT'S HERE!
chugga chugga chugga

WHAT SHOULD I DO? IT'S HARD FOR ME TO EVEN MOVE WITH THESE CLOTHES ON...
THE SPAN FROM THIS STOP TO THE NEXT ONE IS IDEAL FOR THEM .
THEY'LL START THEIR JOB
BUT..
...?
HUH!
MR BOWER
THIS IS BAD HE SAW ME
IF I GET ON LIKE THIS, WILL THEY NOTICE
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MY OFFER, MISS?
OH NO! AM I DISCOVERED?!
...
Scare
SPECIAL CART, HUH .

TOOOOOT
chugga
SHOULD I TAKE IT..?
HE'LL UNDER-STAND, IF I EXPLAIN IT
CHUGGA CHUGGA CHUGGA
MUCH BETTER
Shuffle
Shuffle
chug chug chug

mmph
I WOULDN'T MIND REMOVING THAT GAG, BUT YOU MIGHT MAKE SOME NOISE
THIS WON'T TAKE LONG
I'M REALLY SORRY, SIR
mmph
mmph
HUH?
OH... YOU'VE CHANGED, HUH?
A GIRL REALLY CAN'T TRAVEL ON HER OWN
YOU SUDDENLY ATTACKED ME!
BUT YOU WERE TOO MUCH!
IT WAS A PAIN DRESSING YOU UP.. YOU CHANGED TOO FAST
IT LOOKED REALLY GOOD ON YOU, YOU KNOW!

RELAX RELAX.
I LEFT A NOTE FOR GRACE AND THE OTHERS
SINCE WHEN ..!!
ugga chugga chu
IT'S MOVING!
GET OFF!
NO! IT'S NOT THAT!
OH, THIS..?
DO YOU THINK THIS IS SOME SORT OF A PICNIC?
OINK
WILLY.
THIS IS NOT A GAME.
MIRIAM
THIS IS MR BOWER WE'RE TALKING ABOUT

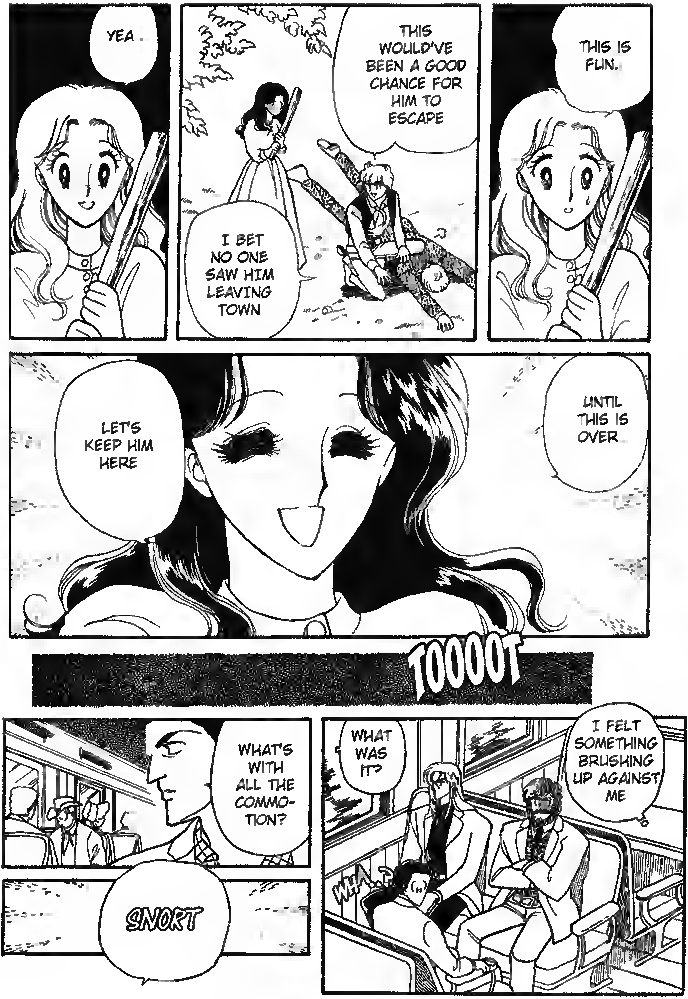
Y.. YOU
WILLY CAN HELP!
THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT HIM WITH ME!
DOUGLAS. HOW ARE YOU GOING TO CONTACT HUEY?
WHAT?
DON'T YOU KNOW? HUEY'S HANDS ARE CUFFED RIGHT NOW
WHAT!?
I KNEW IT... YOU DON'T KNOW ANY-THING...
UHMM I..
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO INVESTIGATE
I DON'T WANT YOU GOING OFF BY YOURSELF
..YOU'LL GET TRICKED AGAIN
IT APPEARS THAT YOU'LL BE NEEDING MY HELP AFTERALL
YOU ARRO-GANT BRAT!
.....
SO
WHO WAS THE ONE WAILING ON MY CHEST?

HMM
THAT?
HUH
SHE'S PULLING BACK
UH THAT
.....
WHAT'S WRONG?
SAY IT!
HEY!
C'MON.
UH
THAT
UH MM
turn
THAT WAS IN THE PAST!
KYAAAAAAAAAA

I GUESSED RIGHT
I KNEW YOU'D GO BACK TO THE RANCH
I FINALLY FOUND YOU, GRACE!!
cluck cluck cluck
I DON'T LIKE THIS TOWN ANYMORE
I'M GONNA START OVER IN ANOTHER TOWN
COME WITH ME GRACE!
NO!!
LET GO!!
CARD!!
CARD!!
HUH! THOSE KIDS ARE DEAD...
NO ONE CAN GET IN MY WAY ANYMORE

POW
TAKE THIS!!
NO WAY!!
NO
DON'T WORRY.. I'M NOT A GHOST
WAIT!
click
DON'T SHOOT ME! I I GIVE UP!
YOU BROUGHT SOME MONEY WITH YOU
HMM
YOU COWARD
I WON'T DO A THING IF YOU STAY STILL.

TOO BAD, YOUR LIFE ENDS HERE, HARNBAG!
FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, I'D SAY YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY FROM HERE
Grrr
BOP
HEY!!
BAS-TARD!
NICE, GRACE!


YEA.
THIS WOULD'VE BEEN A GOOD CHANCE FOR HIM TO ESCAPE
I BET NO ONE SAW HIM LEAVING TOWN
THIS IS FUN.
LET'S KEEP HIM HERE
UNTIL THIS IS OVER
TOOOOT
WHAT'S WITH ALL THE COMMO-TION?
SNORT
WHAT WAS IT?
I FELT SOMETHING BRUSHING UP AGAINST ME
WHA WHA

IT WASN'T ME
.....
.....
WASN'T ME, EITHER
.....
MMM...
WASN'T ME
CRUSH
QNK!
MIRIAM'S PET

HEY!
LET'S GO
THEY'RE ON THIS TRAIN..?
TOOOOOT

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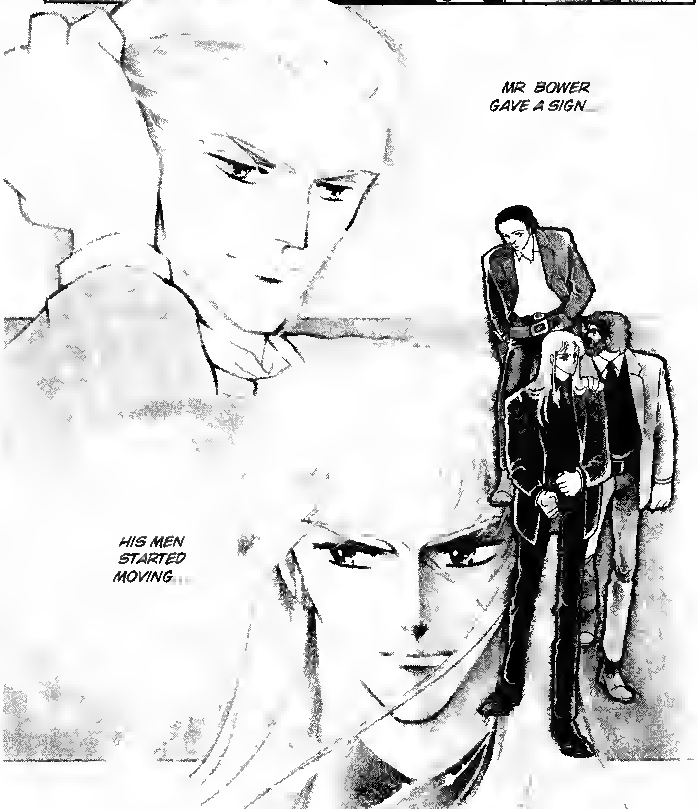
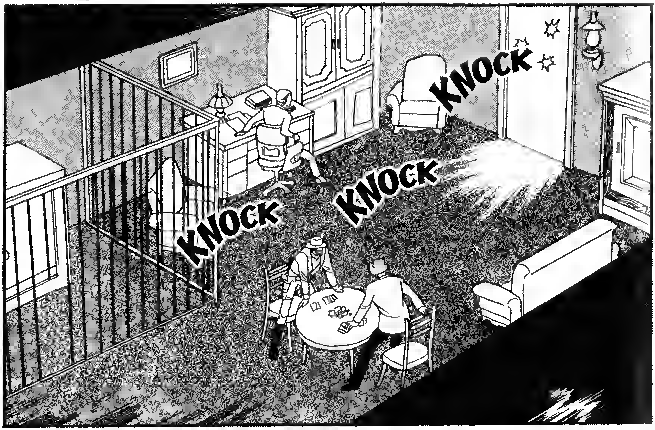
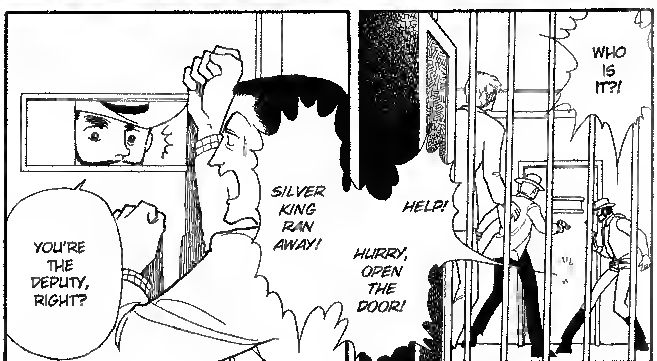


BANG
BANG

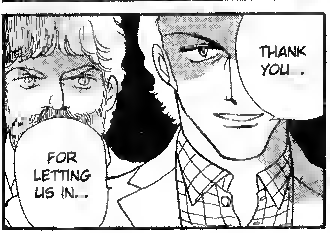

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK

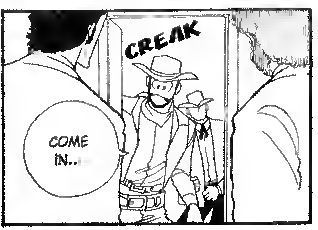

YOU'RE THE DEPUTY, RIGHT?
SILVER KING RAN AWAY!
HELP!
HURRY, OPEN THE DOOR!
WHO IS IT?!

HO... HOLD ON, I'LL OPEN THE DOOR
...WERE 'CAUSE OF HIM
UGH, SO THOSE GUN-SHOTS EARLIER...
KNOCK KNOCK
I THINK HE'S GONNA HIJACK THIS TRAIN!
HE WENT TO THE ENGINE ROOM THROUGH THE ROOF!

CHUG CHUG CHUG CHUG

TAK
TAK
TAK


THANK YOU..
FOR LETTING US IN..


CREAK
COME IN..

HUH?
GRAB
BANG
BANG
BANG
UGH

O... OUCH...
YOU GUYS ...?!
MURMUR
MAYBE HE GOT ARRESTED AGAIN
MURMUR
OH... HOW SCARY!
I HOPE HE DOESN'T COME HERE...
THAT CRIMINAL ESCAPED
TAK
I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS..
FWP
NAH
BOSS... SHOULDN'T WE MAKE THE PASSENGERS SHUT UP?

As far as I know, only 16.7% of manga has a female as the lead character, and it's decreasing every year. Also, it's hardly ever a child character. That's why I created Miriam.

I fell ill for several months when I was writing this manga. After I got better, my manager told me that my drawing was a bit different. He said the artwork wasn't strong enough. I didn't notice it, but I guess I have to be more serious when drawing.

The plan was to finish this manga in 6 months, but instead, it took 16 months. I was so happy when I finally finished this manga.

~to be continued~

HM?
LEAVE THIS ALL TO ME!
I REALLY DIDN'T EXPECT THEM TO START SHOOTING AT ANYONE
NEITHER DID WE..
WE'D BE DEAD BY NOW IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU GUYS...
BUT..

guy from bank
CREAK
IF I TOLD YOU MY IDENTITY, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO BUTT IN LIKE THIS
YOU GUYS WERE SO SURE I WAS SILVER KING THAT I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING
I'M HUEY CASTEA
A SHERIFF FROM THE CAPITAL
CREEEAK
CHUG CHUG
CHUG CHUG
CHUG CHUG
STAY HERE AS LONG AS YOU LIKE, WITH THOSE GOLDEN BARS

LOOK OUT! DUCK!!
CREAK
SO ANYWAY, YOU GUYS..
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG

UGH...
THUD
BANG
BANG
SLIDE
DON'T RUSH IN!
THEY'RE TRAPPED!
THEY'RE ALSO IN THE FRONT!

TRAPPED!
HM... I GUESS I MADE THE MISTAKE...
(jail from trunk)
OF HIRING A SPY LIKE YOU!

IT'S TIME TO STOP THE TRAIN
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO GO TO THE ENGINE ROOM TO STOP THIS TRAIN THAT WAS THE ORIGINAL PLAN
I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID
THE DOOR WAS OPEN, SHERIFF!
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO FACE THEM?
THEY'VE PREPARED HORSES FOR US TO ESCAPE
I HAVE 15 MEN HERE.
YOU'RE PRETTY
THE MAKE-UP REALLY SUITED YOU
WHAAAA!
DON'T TALK ABOUT THAT ANYMORE! IT'S EMBARASS-ING!
YOU WERE DRESSING UP AS A LADY, WEREN'T YOU?
NO WON-DER.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE STILL ALIVE I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN
DOUG-LAS

Sometimes I find some free space when writing a series. I'll fill it with drawings next time..

Oh, gosh, have I been using these free spaces for complaints? I'm sorry but I can't help it.. I'm so busy and I can't think of any other ideas..

I'm writing in these columns just for fun... It wasn't planned at all. Forgive me if I wrote something wrong.

Ah, I'm running out of space already! Okay then, see you next time!

~bye bye~

THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN WIN
IF YOU GUYS JUST GIVE UP, I WON'T KILL YOU
HA HA HA
THEY'LL KILL ALL THE PASSEN-GERS
THIS TRAIN CAN'T STOP...
HUEY...
MY SHOULDER'S HURT, BUT WE CAN STILL DO SOME-THING!
WE'LL HELP, TOO!
YEAH
OKAY
HELP ME OUT, OKAY, DOUG?
I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE AND GO TO THE ENGINE ROOM
I WANT TO SEE YOU AS A LADY
WE HAVE TO WIN...
ARGH!
BANG
THIS IS NOT THE TIME!!

FWP
VICTORY!
LET ME GO TO THE ENGINE ROOM!
W..WHAT?!
MIRIAM!

CHUG
CHUG
good at hopping
HOP
HOP
IT WOULDN'T BE ME IF I GAVE UP SO EASILY
I TOLD HER TO STAY IN THE SPECIAL CART BECAUSE IT WAS TOO DANGEROUS!
THAT'S MIRIAM!!
JUMP
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE MIRIAM TODD!

TOOOOOT
SMACK
WHAP
HERE IT COMES, JED!
LOOK!
TOOOT
TOOOT
I'M ABOUT TO EXPLODE
YEAH, ME TOO... I HAVEN'T KILLED ANYONE FOR QUITE A WHILE
I'VE WAITED FOR THIS FOR SO LONG
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME...
CHUG CHUG

CHUG CHUG
HUH?
HUUH?
IT DIDN'T STOP?
CHUG
CHUG
SILENCE
TOOOOOT
HURRY! GO AFTER THE TRAIN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! GO AFTER IT!!

NICE JOB, MIRIAM!
IT'S NOT STOPPING!
BOSS!
FWP
WAAH! WHAT'S THIS? MY LEG!
CHOMP

BANG
AGH!
BANG
URGH!
BANG
BANG
BANG
URK!
FWP

GASP
LEAP
HE JUMPED?!
JUMP

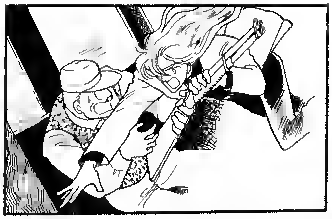
WAIT A MINUTE!
TAK
DOUG!
ALL OF HIS PLANS ARE RUINED! HE LEFT BEHIND ALL WHO KNEW HIS FACE!
WHAT WAS WITH THAT STRANGE SMILE?
THE BRIDGE!
DYNAMITE

CHUG CHUG
THUD
WHOOSH
HIS PRINCIPLE HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO KILL EVERYTHING
GRAB
COULD HE BE...?

BANG
PING
FLING
HUH?
CLICK
SMACK

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DEFEAT ME?!
WHAT?
SLAM
CAN YOU BEAT ME WITHOUT A WEAPON?
CREEEAK
TAK
TAK
HE'S RUNNING
WHAT'S GOING ON?
SILVER KING!

THIS DOOMED TRAIN..
ALL RIGHT! LIGHT IT UP AND RUN!
IT'S FASTER THAN I EXPECTED!
TOOOOT
THERE YOU ARE!
TOOOOOT
THEY'RE GOING TO BLOW UP THE BRIDGE WITH DYNAMITE AND KILL ALL THE PASSENGERS!
STOP IT, MISTER!
STOP THIS TRAIN RIGHT NOW!!
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
A
ARE YOU ONE OF THEM, TOO?!



SCREEEEECH

I DIDN'T KNOW IT WOULD BE A GREAT SHOW LIKE THIS...

KABOOOM

SILENCE
WHAT?
DY... DYNAMITE?!
UGH
PUNCH!
THAT'S RIGHT
YOU GUYS ONLY KNEW A LITTLE PART OF MY PLAN

AH... I SEE...
CRACK
SO... THIS WATCH SAVED YOUR LIFE
CLANK
THUD
STOMP
GRIP
IT'S A GOOD THING YOU'RE NOT ON THE TRAIN ANYMORE...
OLD MAN...

GLARE
CHOKE
SO I CAN KILL YOU NOW!
URGH
DOUG-LAS...
!?
URGH!
SHOVE
BASTARD!

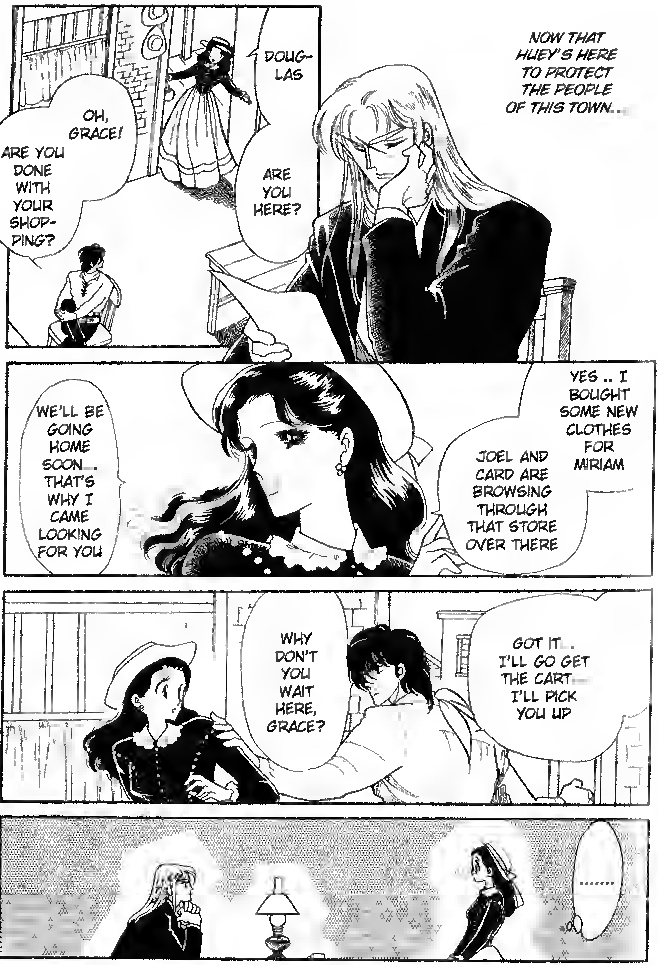
DOUG-
LAS!
SMACK
CLICK
GRAB
MIRI-
AM!

HUEY MUST HAVE REALIZED WHAT WAS HAPPENING . THE TRAIN STOPPED RIGHT BEFORE THE EXPLOSION
YOU HEARD THE EXPLO-SION?
HUEY GOT OFF TOO, BUT I SAW HIM GETTING BACK ON AGAIN
I WAS LATE GETTING OFF OF THE TRAIN... SORRY FOR TAKING SO LONG
YOU'VE LOST, BOWER
HE HE
CLIP CLOP
NO, NOT YET .
....

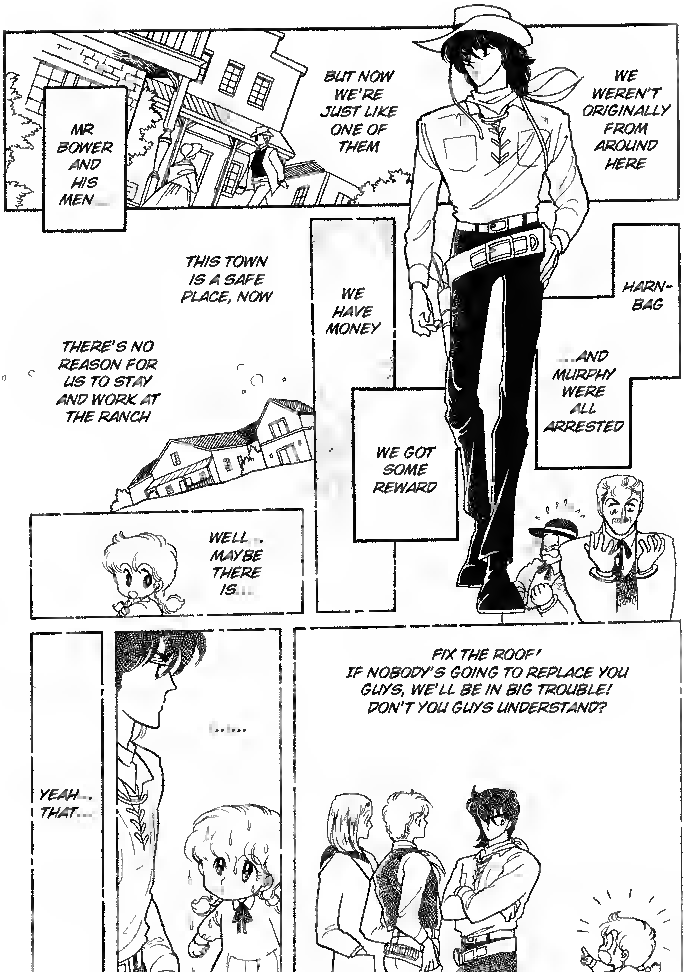
DID YOU GUYS FORGET ABOUT MY FRIENDS?
IT'S OKAY IF IT WASN'T BLOWN UP
THEY'LL STILL ATTACK THE IDLING TRAIN
BUT I THINK IT'S POINT-LESS
WHAT ...?
EARLIER..
THEY AC-TU-AL-LY CAME
I HAD A BAD FEELING, BUT I WENT ON WITH THE ORIGINAL PLAN

RIGHT ON TIME...
PHEW

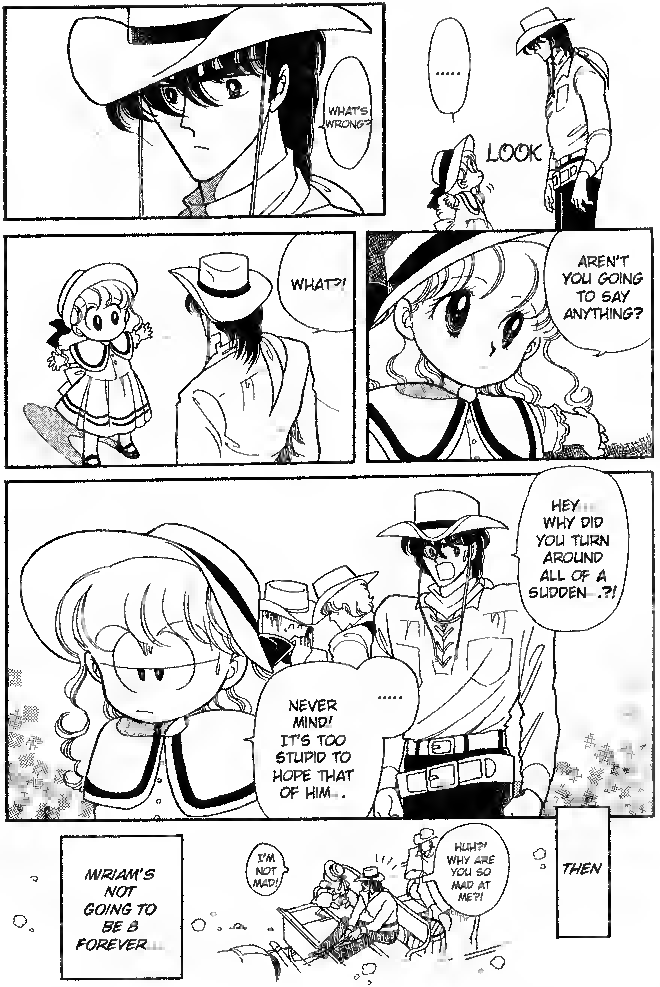
I WENT THROUGH A LOT OF TROUBLE BECAUSE OF HIM
DON'T YOU THINK?
GEEZ...
YOU LOOK MORE LIKE THE GUY IN THOSE POSTERS THAN HE DOES
YOU WANNA SEE THE REAL SILVER KING?
FWP
I FEEL SORRY..
FOR THE OLD SHERIFF THAT HARNBAG WAS USING...
WE HID HIM FOR A WHILE AFTER WE CAUGHT HIM
BUT HE WAS ACTUALLY USEFUL THIS TIME
Hmpf!

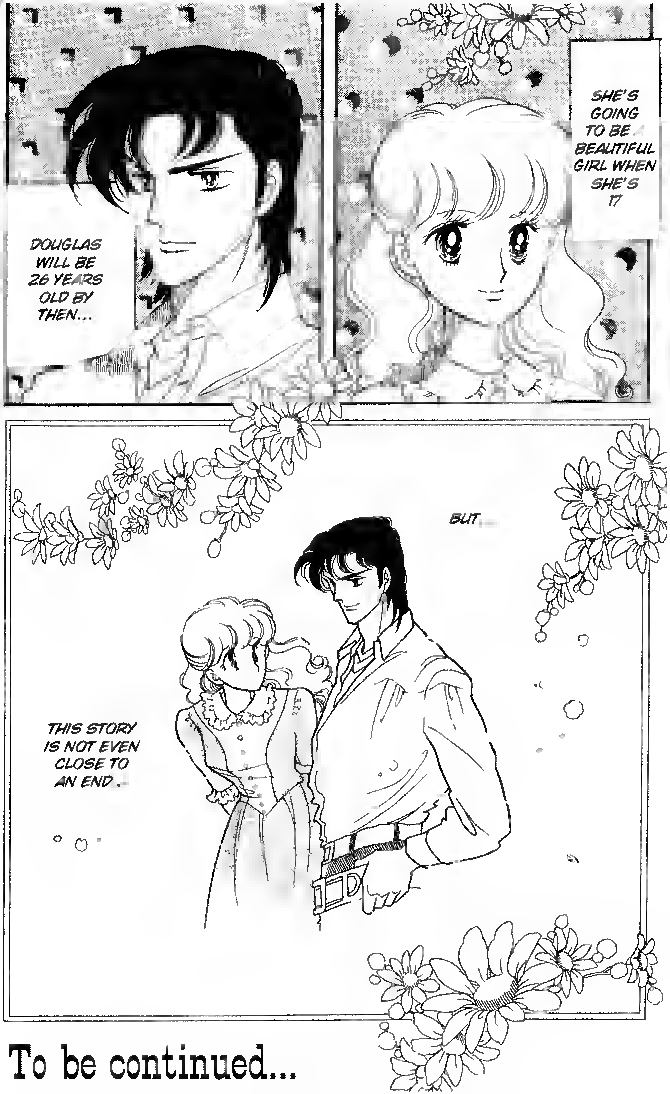

NOW THAT HUEY'S HERE TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN...
DOUG-LAS
ARE YOU HERE?
OH, GRACE! ARE YOU DONE WITH YOUR SHOP-PING?
YES .. I BOUGHT SOME NEW CLOTHES FOR MIRIAM
JOEL AND CARD ARE BROWSING THROUGH THAT STORE OVER THERE
WE'LL BE GOING HOME SOON... THAT'S WHY I CAME LOOKING FOR YOU
WHY DON'T YOU WAIT HERE, GRACE?
GOT IT... I'LL GO GET THE CART... I'LL PICK YOU UP
.....

PLEASE, SIT DOWN
SMILE
HUEY SUITS HER BETTER
IT'S HOPE-LESS...
HUEY AND GRACE WILL PROBABLY BE A COUPLE
HEY! DOING JUST FINE!
HOW ARE YOU, DOUG-LAS?
IT FEELS STRANGE
WHOOOSH


MR BOWER AND HIS MEN...
BUT NOW WE'RE JUST LIKE ONE OF THEM
WE WEREN'T ORIGINALLY FROM AROUND HERE
THIS TOWN IS A SAFE PLACE, NOW
WE HAVE MONEY
HARN-BAG
...AND MURPHY WERE ALL ARRESTED
THERE'S NO REASON FOR US TO STAY AND WORK AT THE RANCH
WE GOT SOME REWARD
WELL... MAYBE THERE IS...
YEAH... THAT...
FIX THE ROOF! IF NOBODY'S GOING TO REPLACE YOU GUYS, WE'LL BE IN BIG TROUBLE! DON'T YOU GUYS UNDERSTAND?

THE FIRST THING IS TO FIX THE ROOF!
TA-DAH!
LOOK!
HMM
LOOKS GOOD ON YOU!
WOW . CUTE!
HEY YOU CHANGED YOUR CLOTHES ALREADY, MIRIAM?
JOEL, YOU..
THERE'S ACTUALLY A GOWN THAT I LIKE, TOO


WHAT'S WRONG?
.....
LOOK
WHAT?!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO SAY ANYTHING?
HEY... WHY DID YOU TURN AROUND ALL OF A SUDDEN..?!
.....
NEVER MIND! IT'S TOO STUPID TO HOPE THAT OF HIM..
MIRIAM'S NOT GOING TO BE A FOREVER...
I'M NOT MAD!
HUH?! WHY ARE YOU SO MAD AT ME?!
THEN



To be continued...

MiRiAM

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MIRIAM